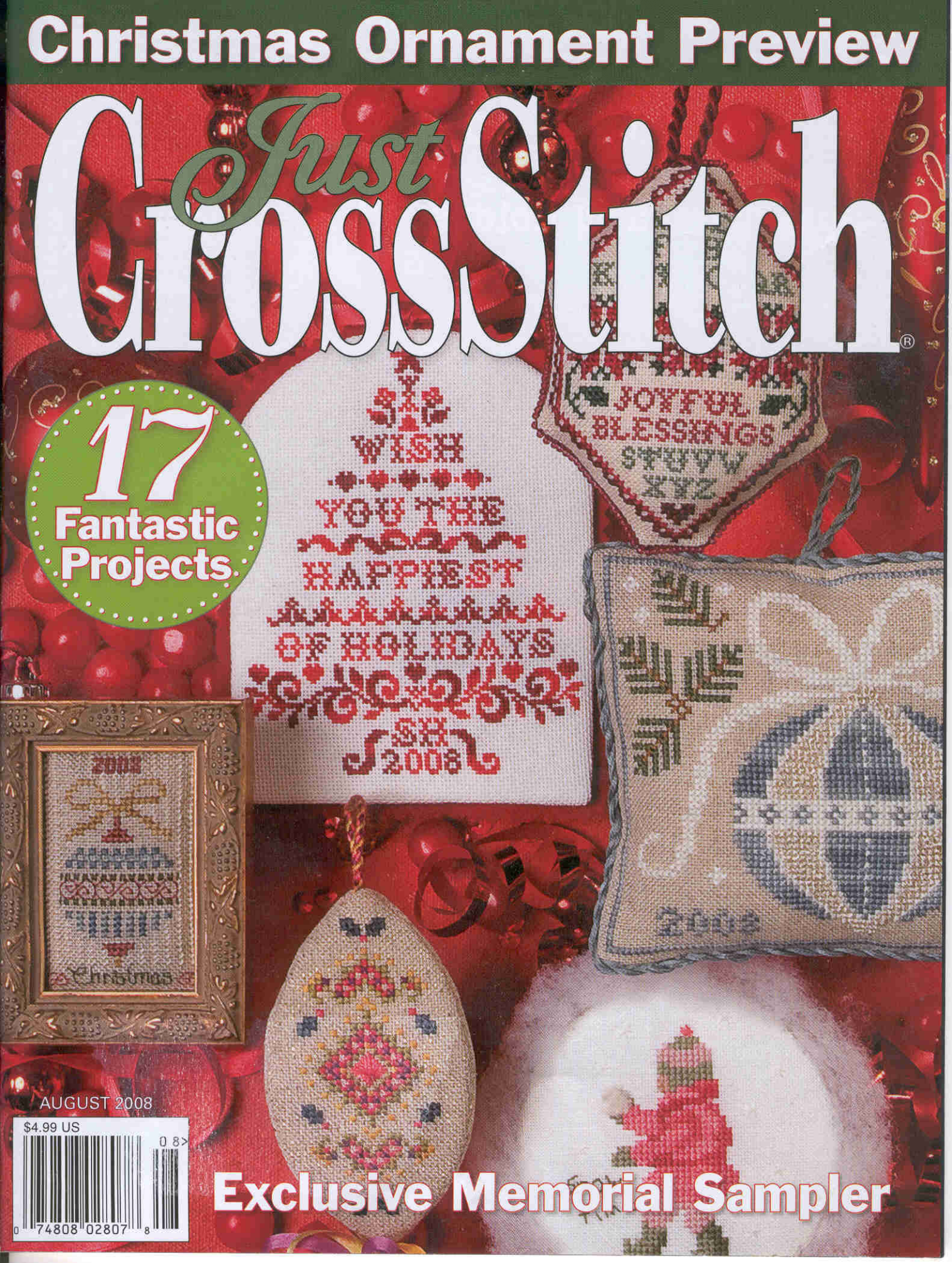
Christmas Ornament Preview

Just CrossStitch®

17 Fantastic Projects



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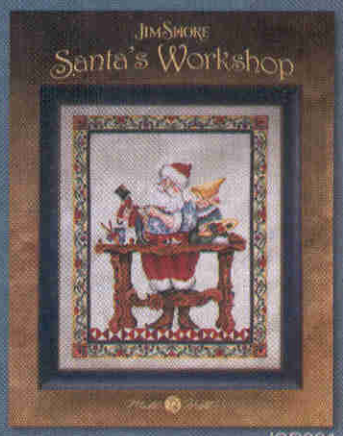

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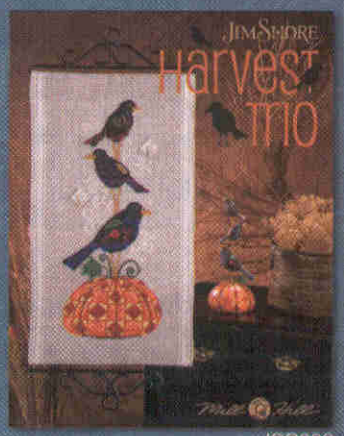

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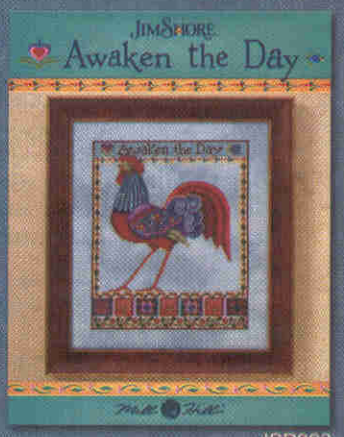

JSP003

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Contents

Volume 26, Number 4 • July/August 2008

Showcase

7 **Fruitful Abundance: Golden Cherries**
Plump and juicy cherries surrounded by an elaborate floral border

10 **In Memory**
Colorful, cheerful band sampler commemorates the life of a loved one

21 **Poppy Field**
Brilliant red poppies sway beneath a soft blue sky

24 **Sneak Peek: Christmas Ornament Issue Preview**
Companions to eight ornaments from the 2008 Christmas Ornament Issue

35 **Summer**
The third design of a bright and cheery seasonal series

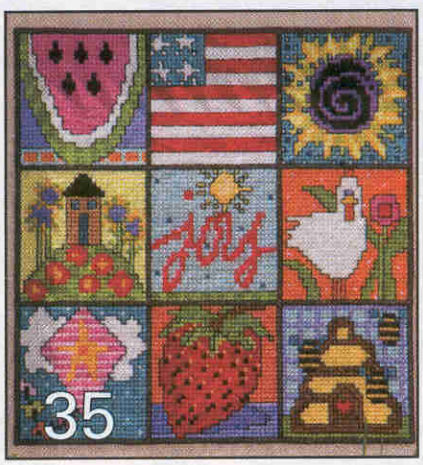
40 **Tea in My Garden**
Flowers in bloom surround a whimsical tea pot

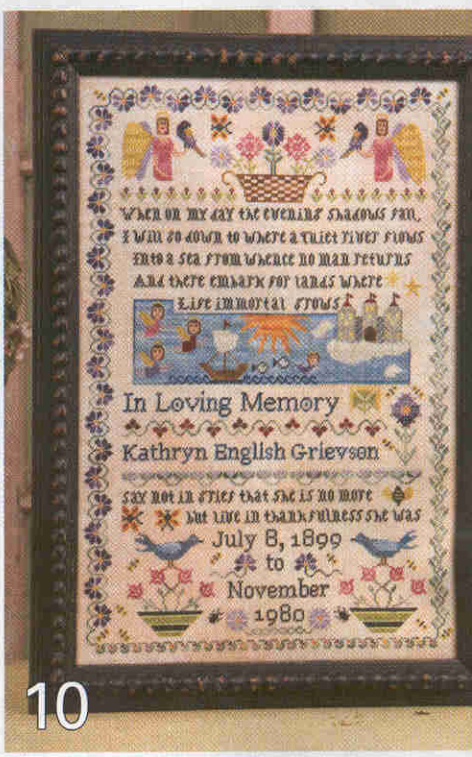
46 **St. Cuthbert's Angel**
An adaptation of a wood carving from seventh-century England

49 **Liberty**
Patriotic sampler celebrates the red, white, and "ewe"

52 **Dog**
Man's best friend adorns a fun wall hanging

56 **Beach Girls**
Three bathing beauties stroll across a bright, prefinished tote





Features

38 **Faux Punch-Needle Embroidery, Part IV:**
Tips and Techniques

44 **Arelate Studio:**
Medieval Reflections

Regular Features

6 **One Stitch Ahead**

43 **Tassel-Making Instructions**

55 **Twisted-Cording Instructions**

55 **Stitch Illustrations**

62 **Where To Find It**

64 **Advertising Index**

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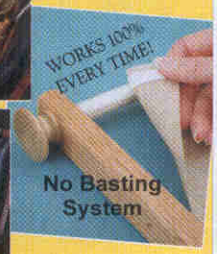

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One Stitch Ahead

Exciting changes are afoot at *Just CrossStitch* as we round the corner into the heart of summer.

As you can tell from the cover, this year we've shifted the Christmas Ornament Preview issue forward from the October to the August issue. Two important considerations informed this decision. First, many of our readers have requested that we publish the Ornament Issue earlier in the summer so that they can get a jump-start on their holiday stitching projects. We asked eight of the designers who are participating in the 2008 Ornament Issue to design a companion design a little bit earlier in their yearly schedules, and we present these designs to you in time for them to make it into your project bags to accompany you to the beach, the mountains, or wherever your summer holiday plans may take you this summer. Moving the Ornament Preview issue forward also paves the way for a second exciting change. Based on overwhelming requests from readers and designers alike, the October 2008 issue of *Just CrossStitch* will feature a Halloween-themed section. Ten top designers have designed delightful little Halloween ornaments that—like the Christmas ornaments—are quick and fun to stitch. Several larger Halloween and autumn harvest-themed designs will also appear in the issue, along with a variety of timeless designs appropriate for any time of the year.

In Memory

By far the largest project in this month's issue is *In Memory* (left), designed by Deborah Thorpe of Midsummer Night Designs, which appears on page 10. We profiled Deborah in the June 2007 issue, and a picture of *Memorial Sampler* that she designed in honor of her late father appeared in her designer profile. We received so much feedback about that little picture that I asked Deborah to design a second memorial sampler to share with our readers. A kit for *In Memory* is also available; see the order form on page 51.

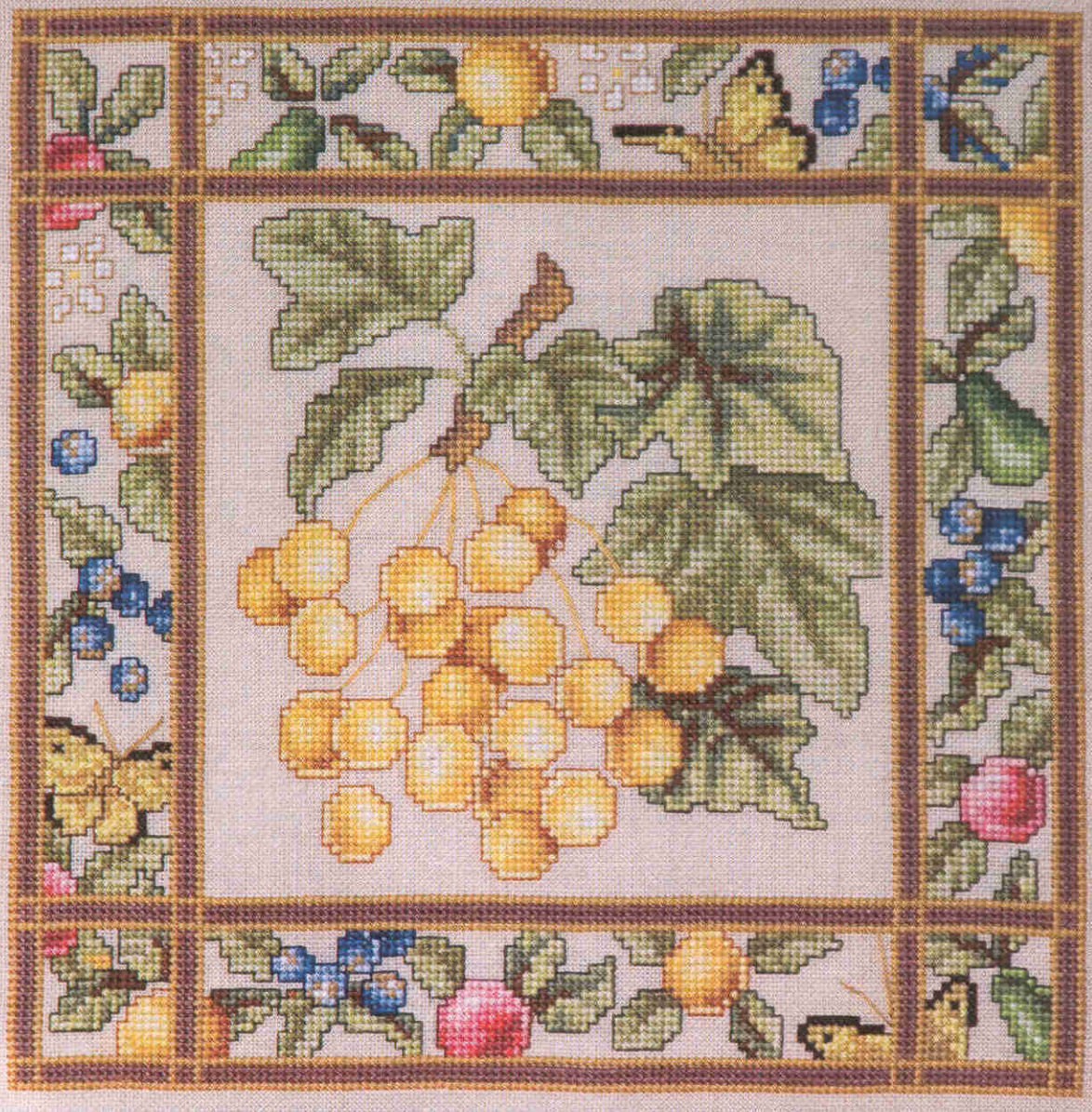
Finally, we are experimenting with adding color to our charts to make them easier to read. We colorized the chart for *Poppy Field* on page 22 of this issue and we want your feedback! Please log onto *www.just-crossstitch.com* and let us know if you like the colored chart and want to see more of them, or if you'd like for us to remain with our traditional black-and-white charts.

Until October, happy stitching!

Elizabeth Pugh

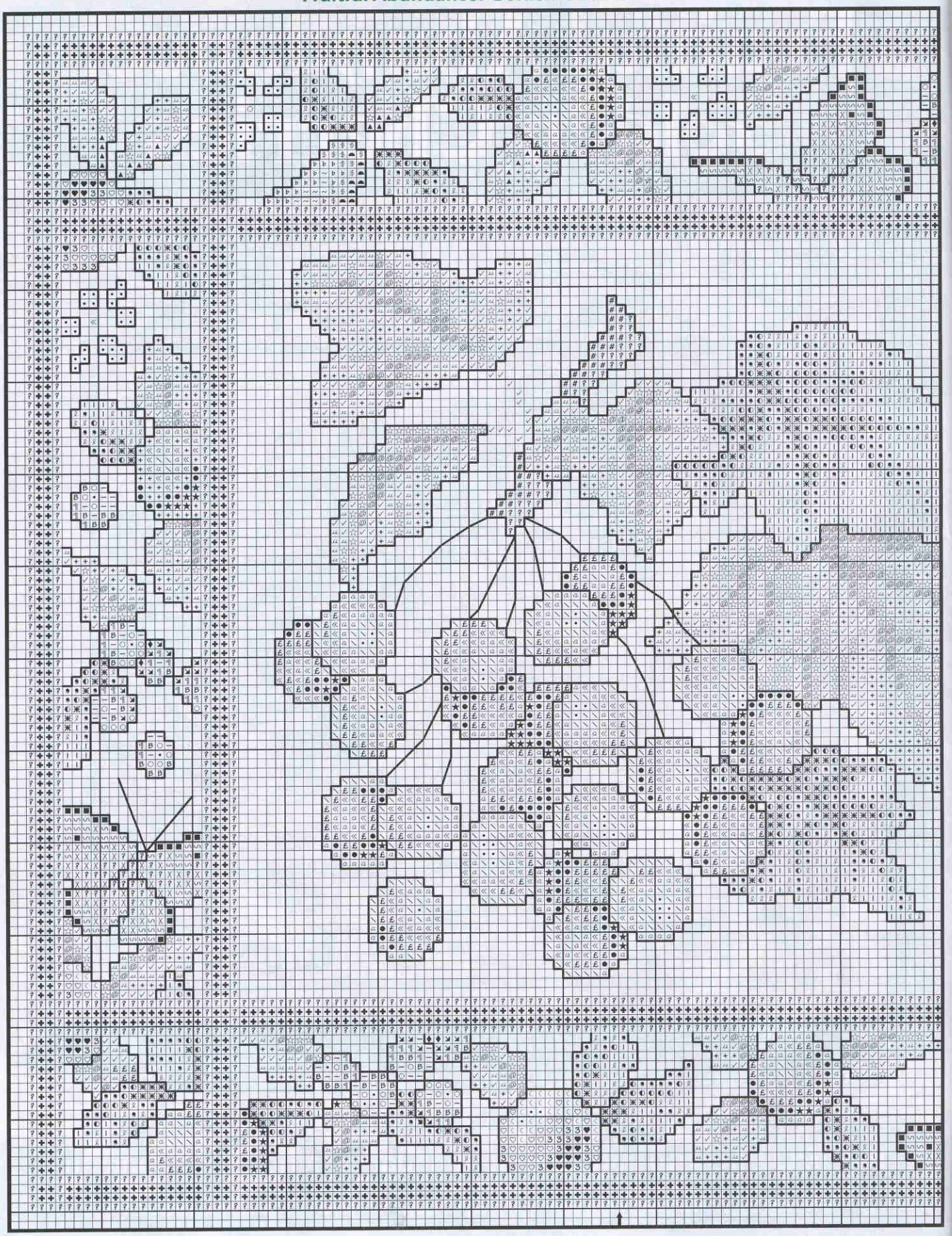
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
Psalm 139:17 (NRSV)

Fruitful Abundance: Golden Cherries



Stitched on soft 32-count linen, these plump and juicy cherries look ripe for the picking. Marie Barber's "Golden Cherries" is the first in her two-part Fruitful Abundance series; a companion design, "Blueberries," will appear in the October issue.

Fruitful Abundance: Golden Cherries



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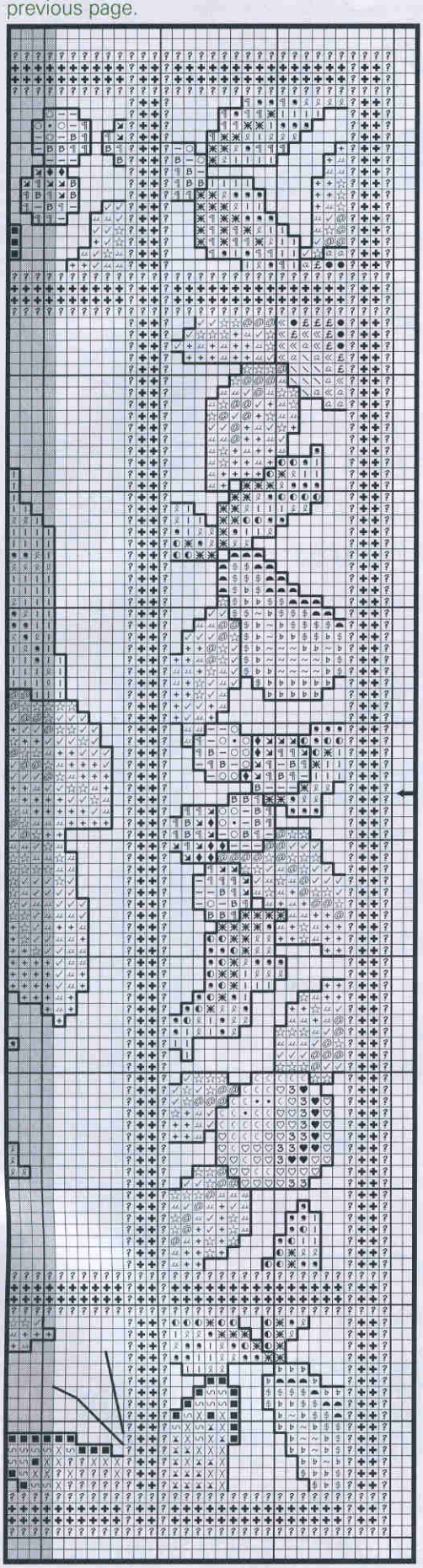

FRUITFUL ABUNDANCE: GOLDEN CHERRIES

Designed by Marie Barber

Materials:

- 14" x 14" piece 32-count shell linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss listed**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Professionally framed*

*See "Where to Find It" on page 62.

**Refer to color code.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
3	350	11	coral, med.
♥	3721	896	pink, dk.
♡	899	38	rose, med.
(	776	24	pink, med.
#	3863	378	mocha beige, med.
○	3045	888	yellow-beige, dk.
∩	834	878	olive, vy. lt.
X	727	293	topaz, vy. lt.
◆	3750	1036	antique blue, vy. dk.
⌟[	3750	1036	antique blue, vy. dk.
	3765	170	peacock, vy. dk.
¶	3765	170	peacock, vy. dk.
B[	807	168	peacock
	813	161	blue, lt.
–	827	160	blue, vy. lt.
~	369	1043	pistachio, vy. lt.
@	3011	8556	khaki, dk.
☆[	3012	855	khaki, med.
	470	266	avocado, lt.
✓[	471	265	avocado, vy. lt.
	3013	853	khaki, lt.
⩊	3348	264	yellow-green, lt.
+[	3348	264	yellow-green, lt.
	712	926	cream
★	301	1049	mahogany, med.
●	783	307	gold
£[	742	303	tangerine, lt.
	3821	305	straw
«	743	302	yellow, med.
a	744	301	yellow, pl.
\	3078	292	golden yellow, vy. lt.
▲	501	878	blue-green, dk.
◐	3363	262	pine green, med.
●	3364	261	pine green
ℓ	472	253	avocado, ul. lt.
I[	472	253	avocado, ul. lt.
	712	926	cream
✳	801	359	coffee, dk.
.	3865	2	winter white
■	3371	382	black-brown
✚	3860	678	cocoa
?	729	890	old gold, med.
b	704	256	chartreuse, bt.
⩙	3045	888	yellow beige, dk.
◓	986	246	forest green, vy. dk.
$	988	243	forest med.
	935	861	avocado, vy. dk.
	839	1086	beige-brown, dk.
	3826	1049	golden brown

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Stitch count: 128H x 128W
Design size: 8" x 8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of each.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work straight stitch, using one strand of floss and couching where needed.

Backstitch instructions:

935	861	leaves, green fruit
3826	1049	yellow fruit
3045	888	white flowers
839	1086	branches, butterflies
801	359	red fruit

Straight-stitch instructions:

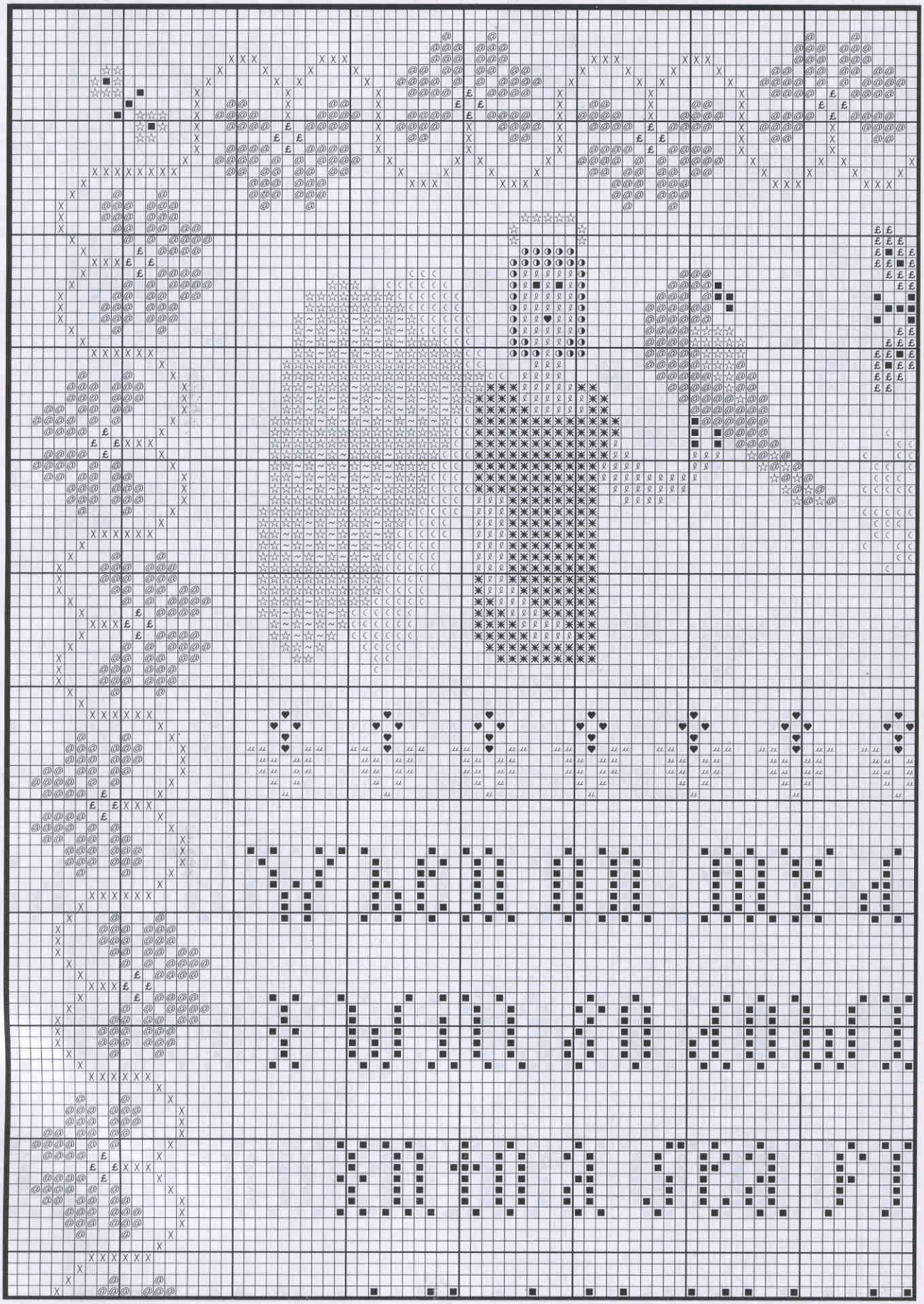
729	890	stems
3045	888	butterfly antennae

Stitched by Barbara Morris

In Memory

When on my day the evening shadows fall,
I will go down to where a quiet river flows
Into a sea from whence no man returns
And there embark for lands where
Life immortal grows
In Loving Memory
Kathryn English Grievson
Say not in grief that she is no more
But live in thankfulness she was
July 8, 1899
to
November
1980

Commemorate the life of a loved one with this colorful sampler by Deborah Thorpe of Midsummer Night Designs. The poignant verse at the beginning of the sampler was penned by Thomas Tiplady, a Methodist minister and chaplain to the English forces during World War I.



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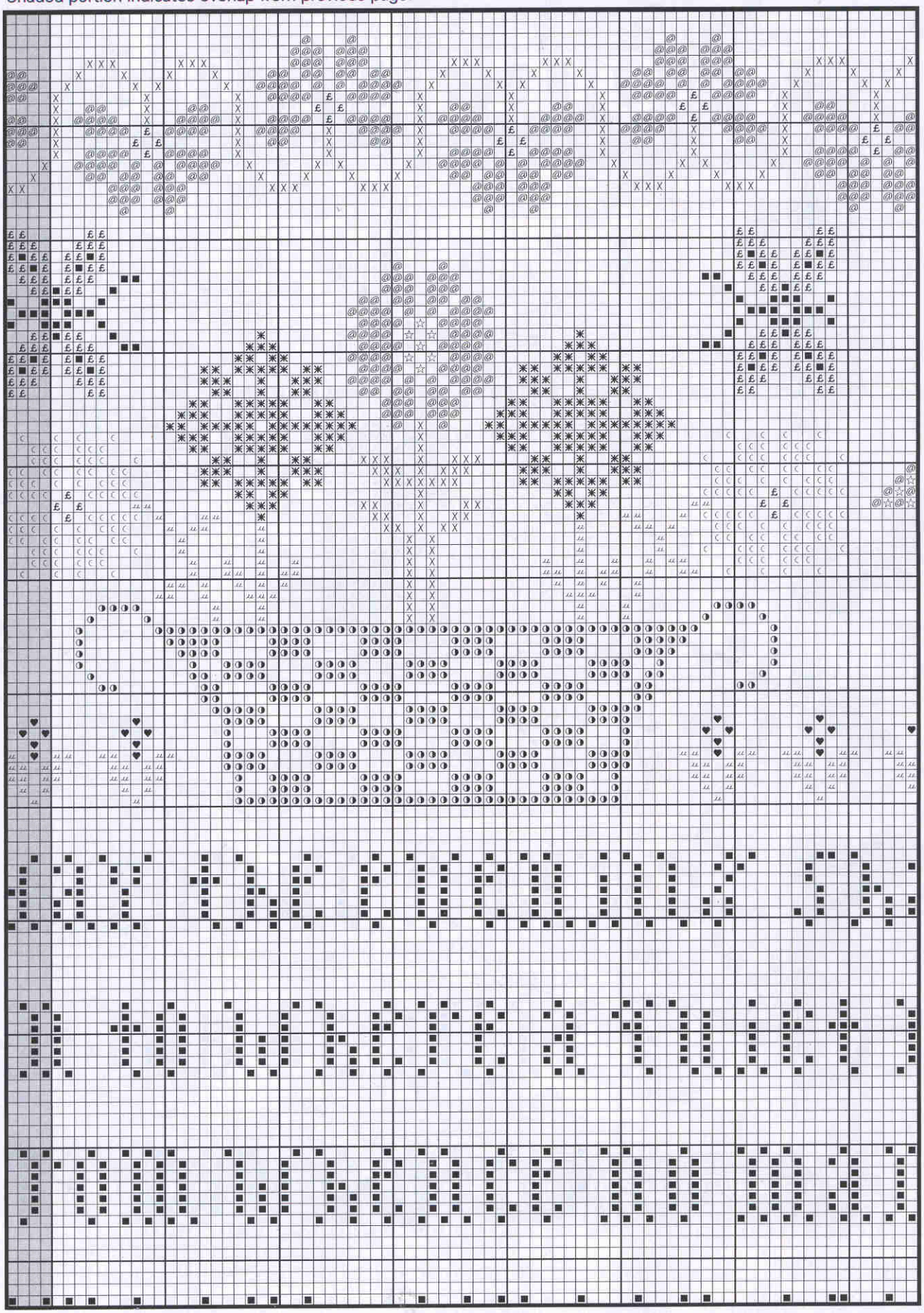

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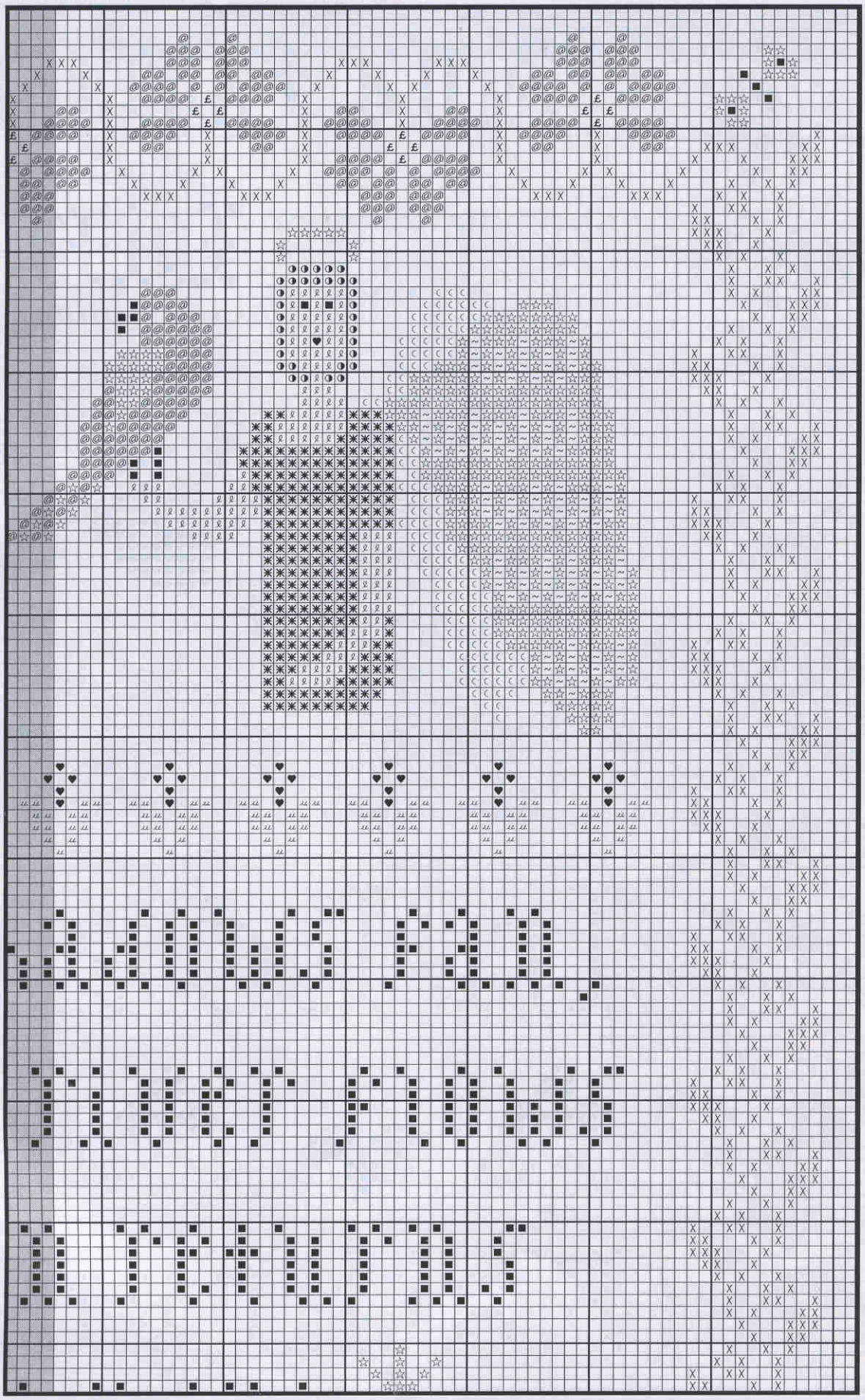

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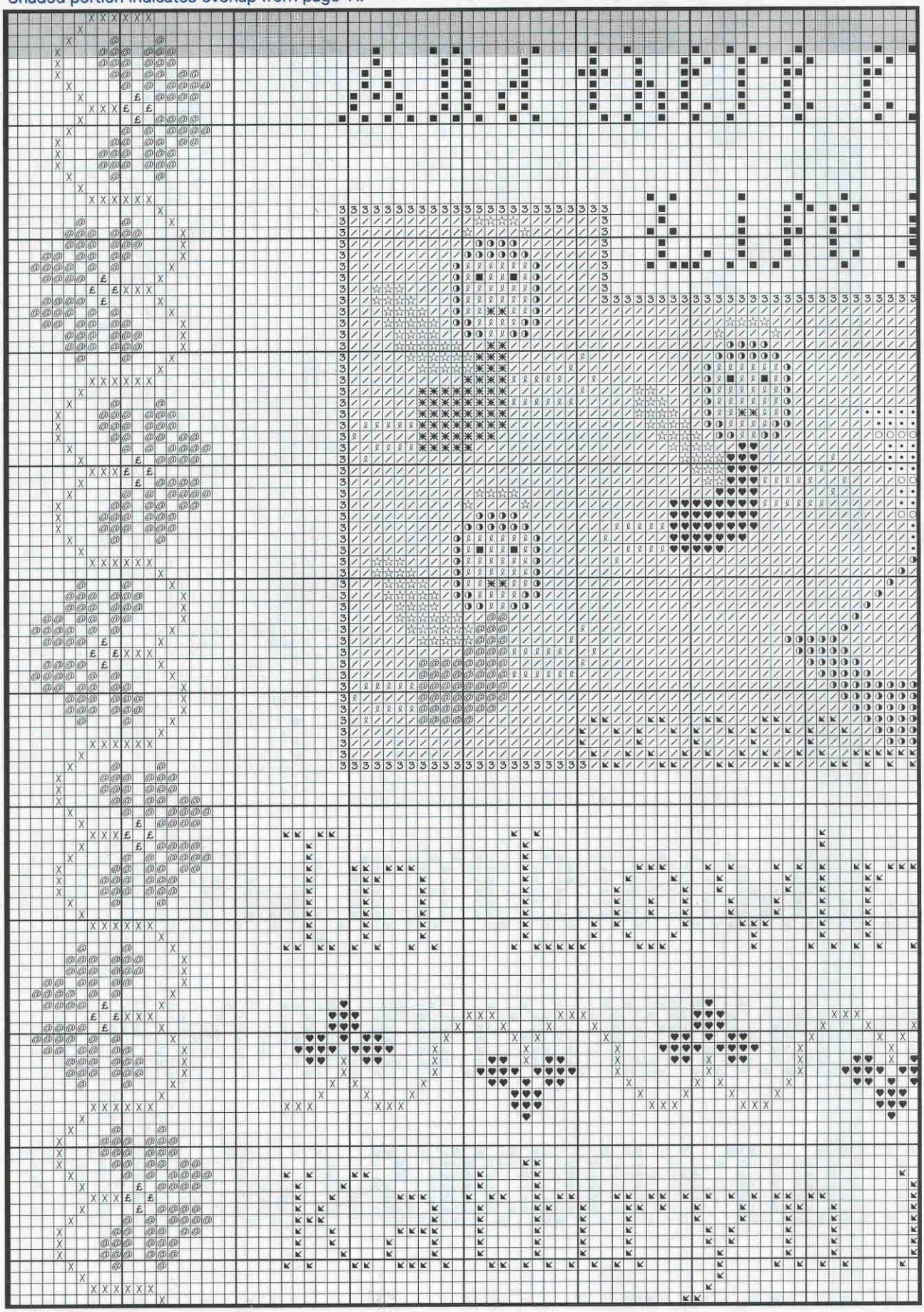

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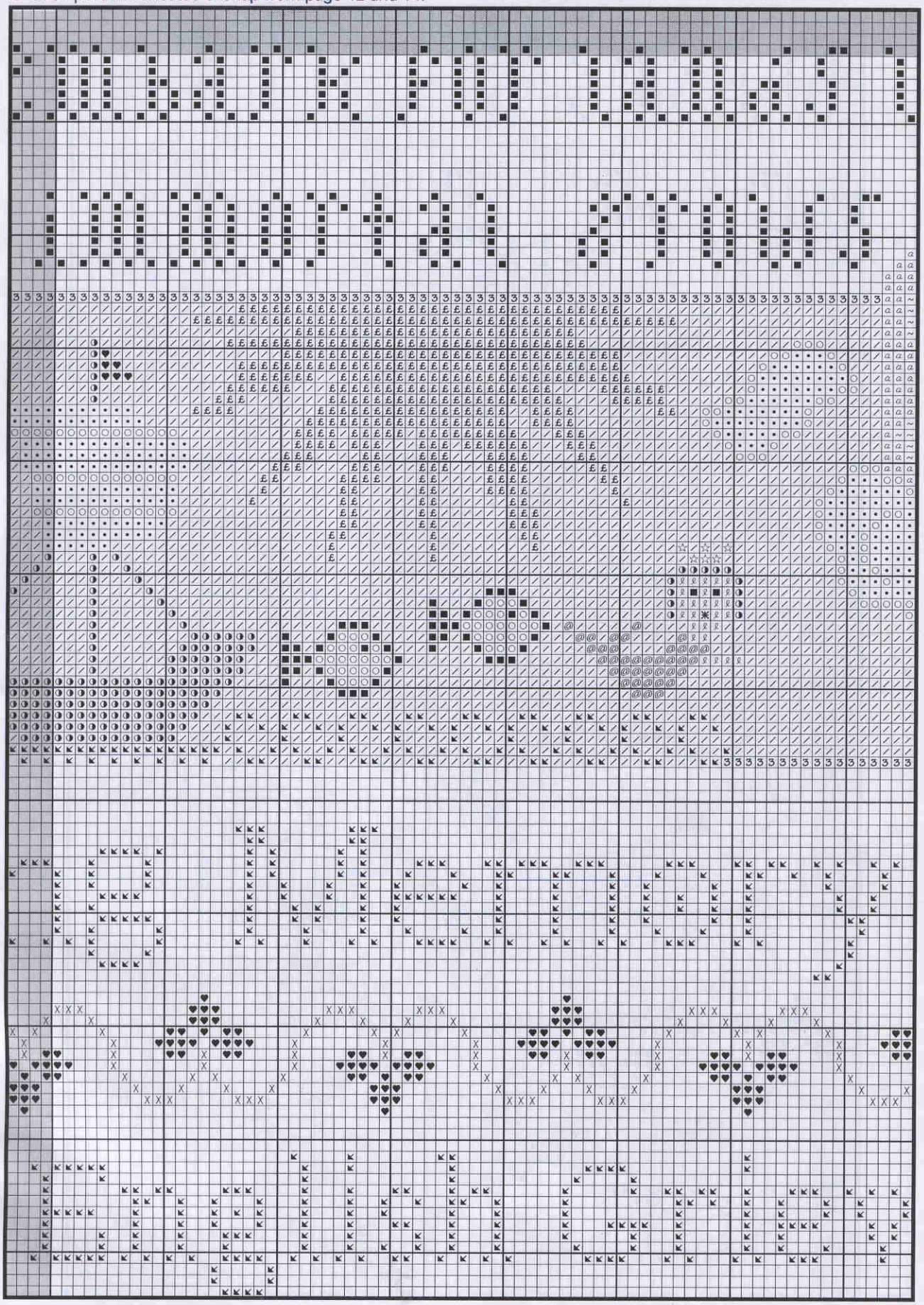

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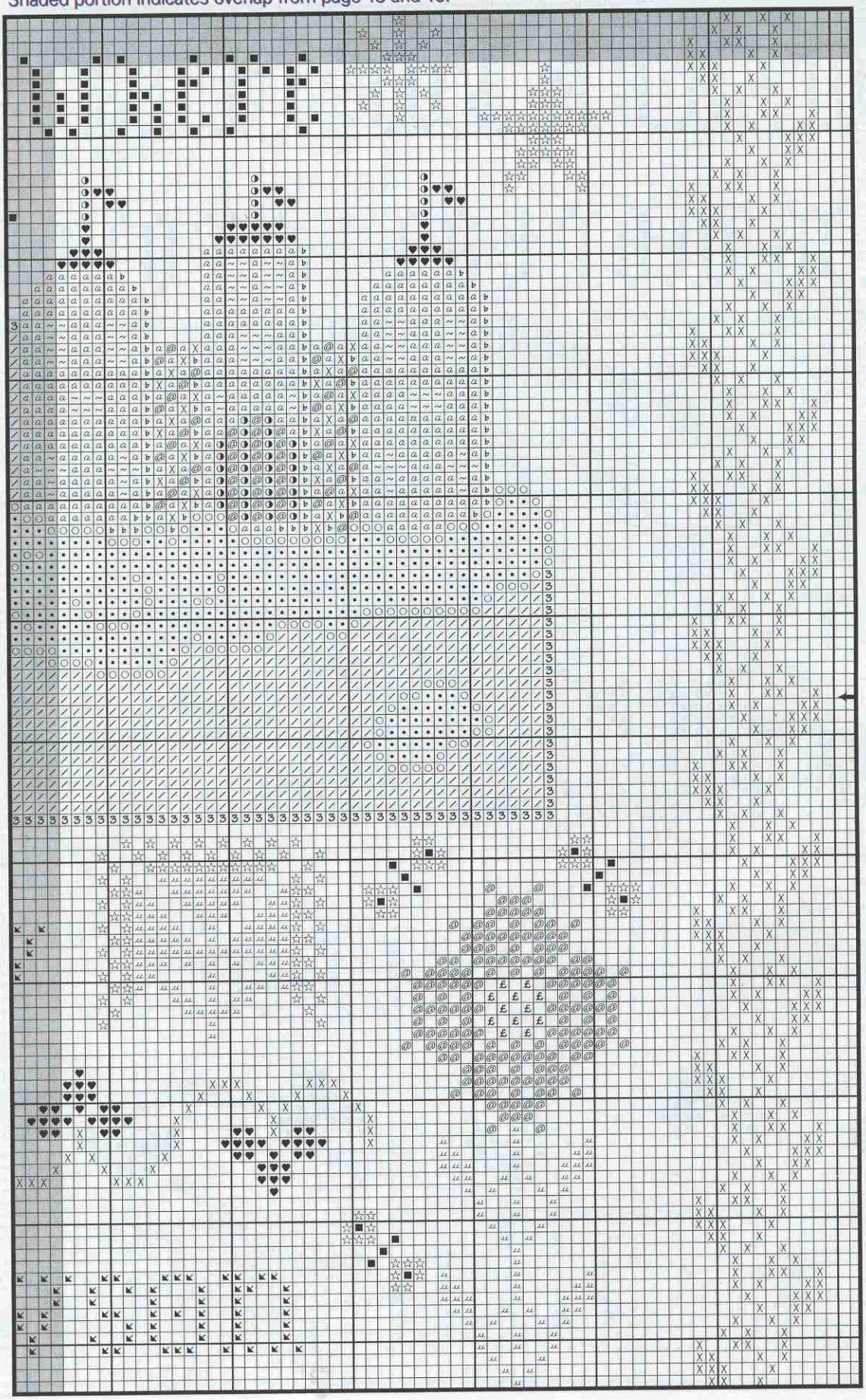

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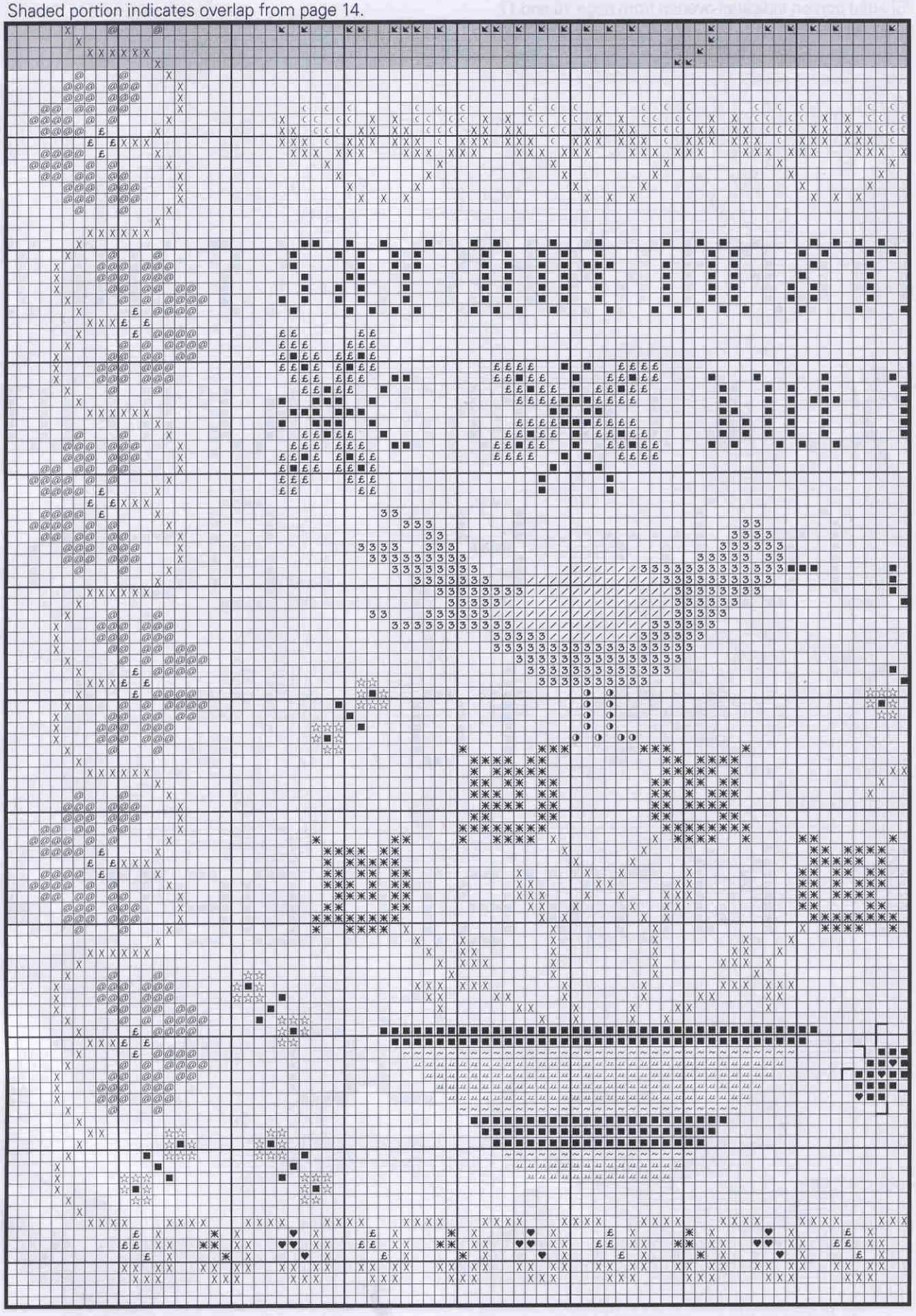

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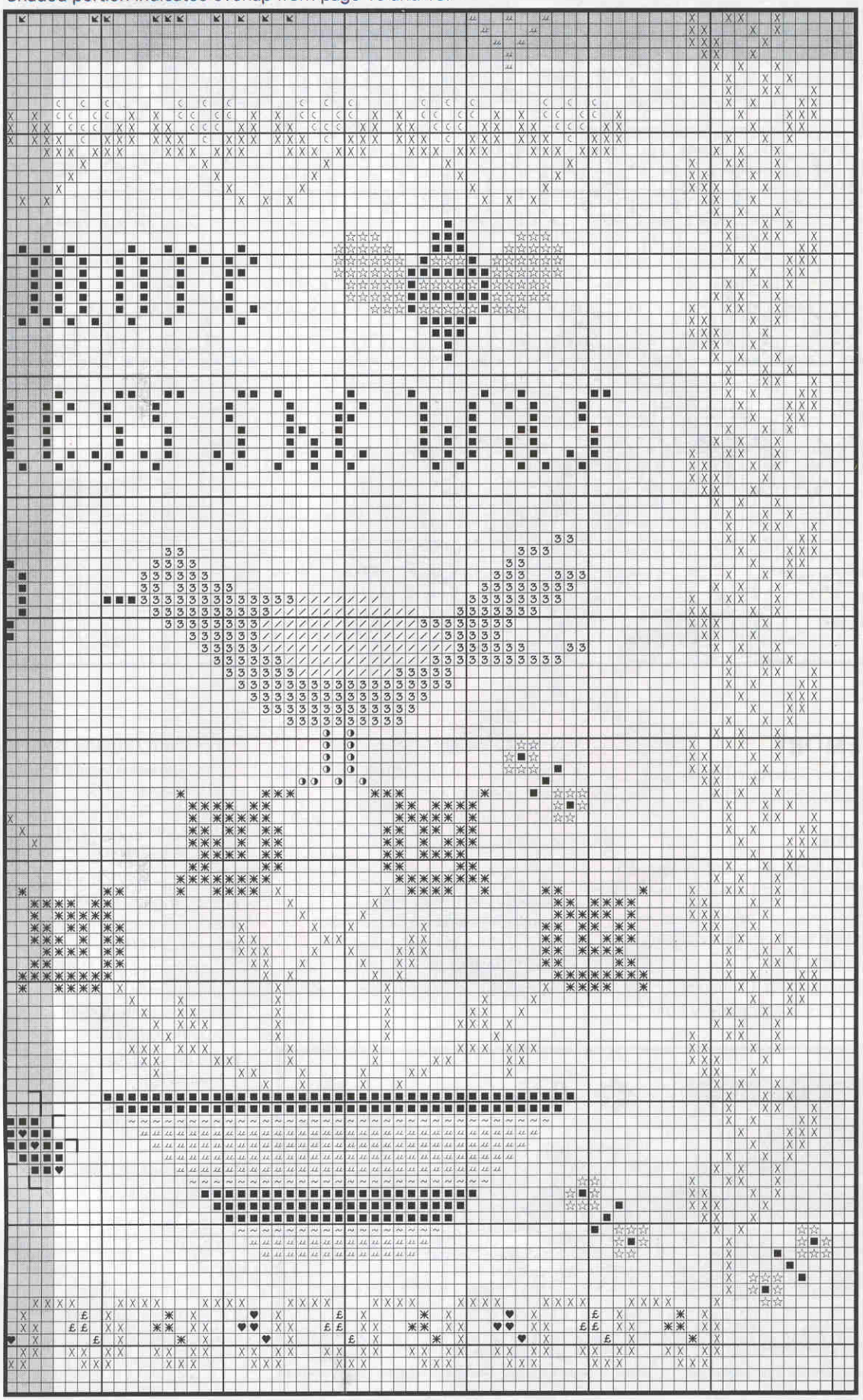
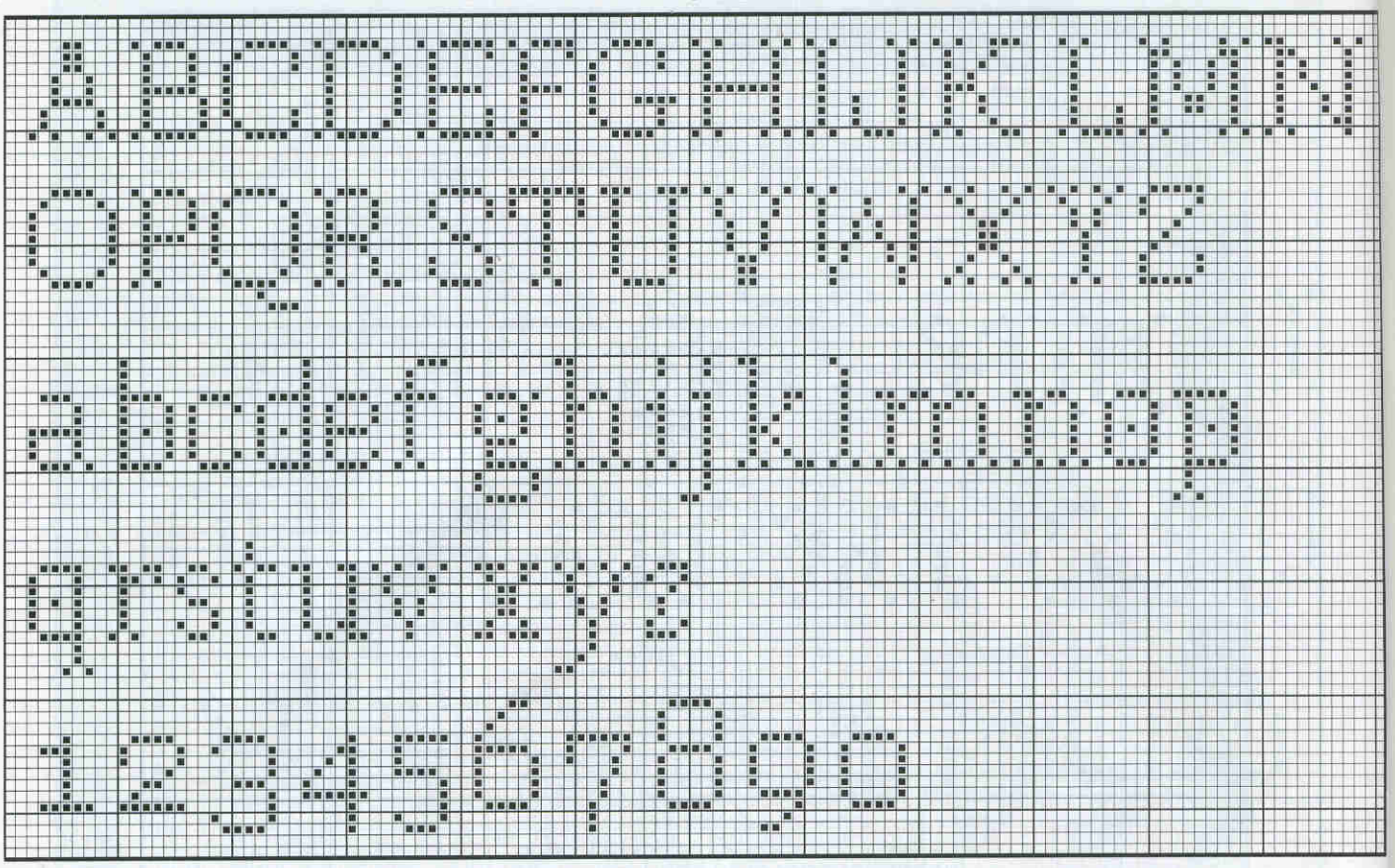


In Memory Alphabet



IN MEMORY

Designed by Deborah Thorpe of Midsummer Night Designs

Materials:

- 17" x 13" piece 40-count vintage Examplar linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs*
- One skein each Needlepoint Inc. silk embroidery floss**
- One skein each Crescent Colours Belle Soie silk embroidery floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Frame (11½" x 17¼" #PRL–BK) from East Side Mouldings*

*See "Where to Find It" on page 62.

**Refer to color code.

Needlepoint Inc. Silk

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

ℓ	622 (758)	coral, lt.
(	885 (3042)	orchid lights, med.
♭	963 (318)	dapple silk, med. lt.

Crescent Colours Belle Soie

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

- a Eiffel Tower (169)
- £ lasagne (922)
- • oatmeal scone (822)
- O love dove (3024)
- 3 ocean tide (793)
- / babbling brook (794)
- @ elegant eggplant (327)
- X fern frond (501)
- ◑ cinnamon stick (433)
- ↙ blue lagoon (336)
- ☆ butterscotch (3852)
- ~ mango (3821)
- ■ old crow (310)
- ⩊ kiwi (470)
- ♥ cranberry (902)
- ✳ rosebud (3687)

Stitch count: 330H x 218W
Design size: 16½" x 11"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of old crow.

Personalize where names and dates appear, using provided alphabet.

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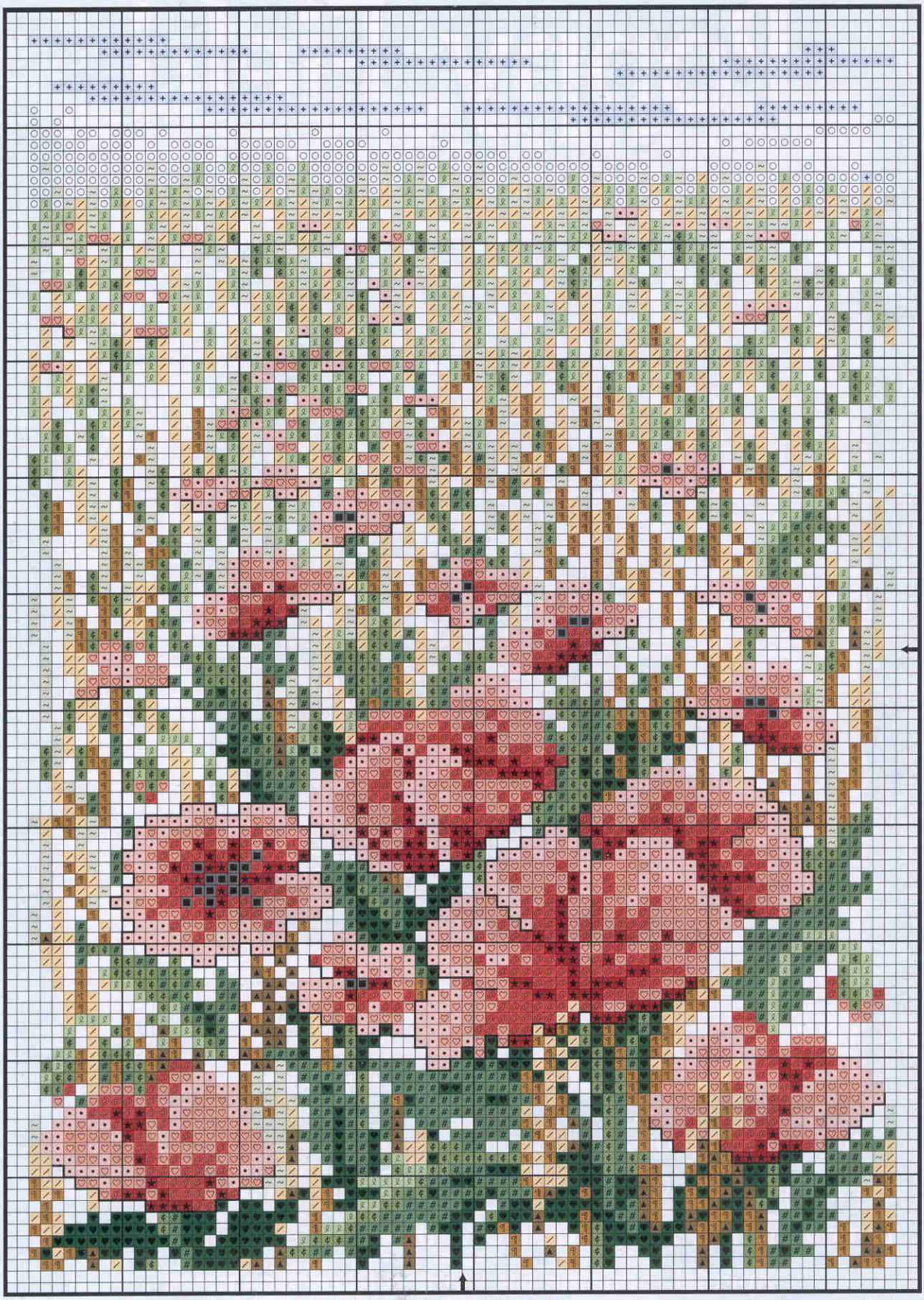
Poppy Field

Brilliant red cross stitches mingle together to depict a field of poppies blowing in the breeze. A symbol of resurrection, remembrance, and eternal love, this simple wildflower carries special meaning for many different cultures.

Poppy Field



POPPY FIELD

Designed by Permin of Copenhagen, Courtesy of Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Materials:

- 14" x 10" piece 28-count lambswool linen ***or*** 14-count lambswool Aida from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand silk embroidery floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Professionally framed*

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

***Refer to color code.*

	DMC®	Anchor®	
~	677	361	old gold, vy. lt.
/	676	891	old gold, lt.
¶	680	901	old gold, dk.
▲	830	277	golden olive, dk.
•	3341	328	apricot
♡	3340	329	apricot, med.
@	606	334	orange red, bt.
ℓ	3348	264	yellow green, lt.
¢	3347	266	yellow green, med.
#	3346	267	hunter green
♥	3345	268	hunter green, dk.
+	775	128	baby blue, vy. lt.
■	939	152	navy blue, vy. dk.
○	B5200	1	snow white
★	349	13	coral, dk.

Stitch count: 106H x 74W
Design size: 7⅝" x 5⅓"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads on linen or over one square on Aida, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads on linen or over one square on Aida, using one strand 349/13.

Tell us what you think!

Are charts with color easier for you to follow than black-and-white charts? Log onto *www.just-crossstitch.com* to answer a short survey about your preferences for full-color or black-and-white charts.

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POPPY FIELD

Designed by Permin of Copenhagen, Courtesy of Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Materials:

- 14" x 10" piece 28-count lambswool linen ***or*** 14-count lambswool Aida from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand silk embroidery floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Professionally framed*

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

***Refer to color code.*

	DMC®	Anchor®	
~	677	361	old gold, vy. lt.
/	676	891	old gold, lt.
¶	680	901	old gold, dk.
▲	830	277	golden olive, dk.
•	3341	328	apricot
♡	3340	329	apricot, med.
◩	606	334	orange red, bt.
ℓ	3348	264	yellow green, lt.
¢	3347	266	yellow green, med.
#	3346	267	hunter green
♥	3345	268	hunter green, dk.
+	775	128	baby blue, vy. lt.
■	939	152	navy blue, vy. dk.
○	B5200	1	snow white
★	349	13	coral, dk.

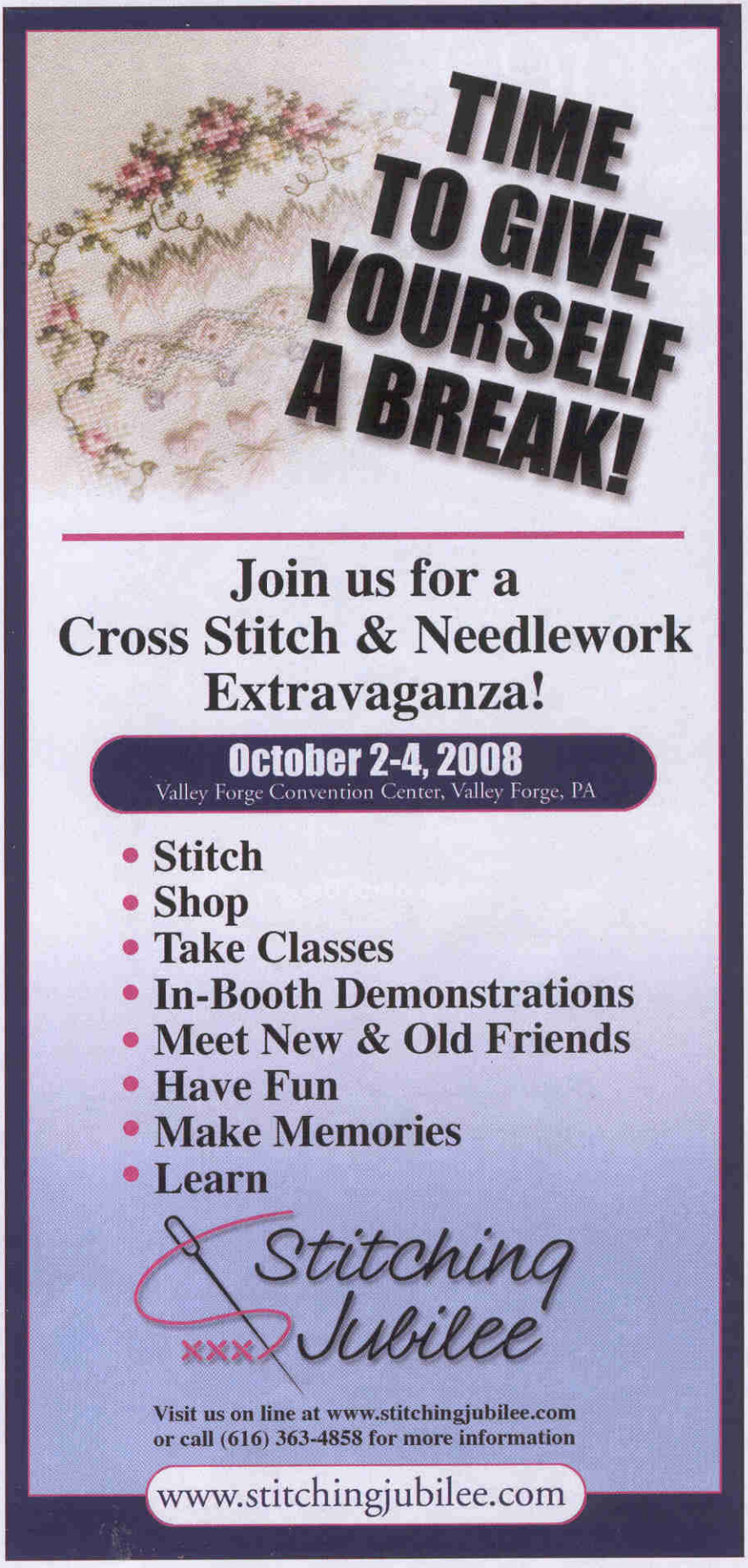
Stitch count: 106H x 74W
Design size: 7⅝" x 5⅓"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads on linen or over one square on Aida, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads on linen or over one square on Aida, using one strand 349/13.

Tell us what you think!

Are charts with color easier for you to follow than black-and-white charts? Log onto *www.just-crossstitch.com* to answer a short survey about your preferences for full-color or black-and-white charts.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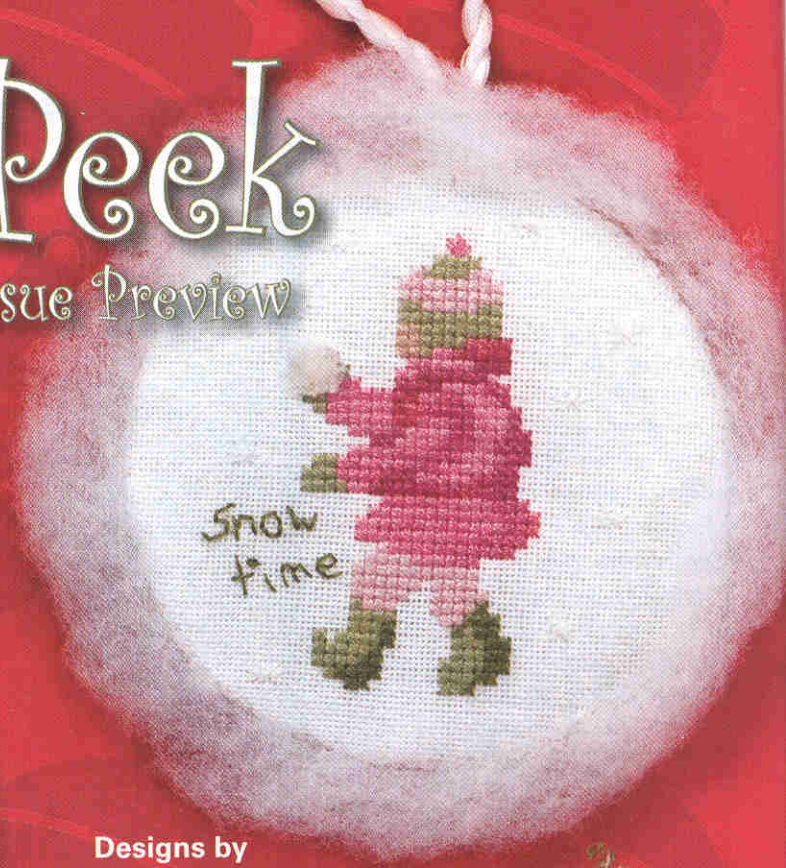
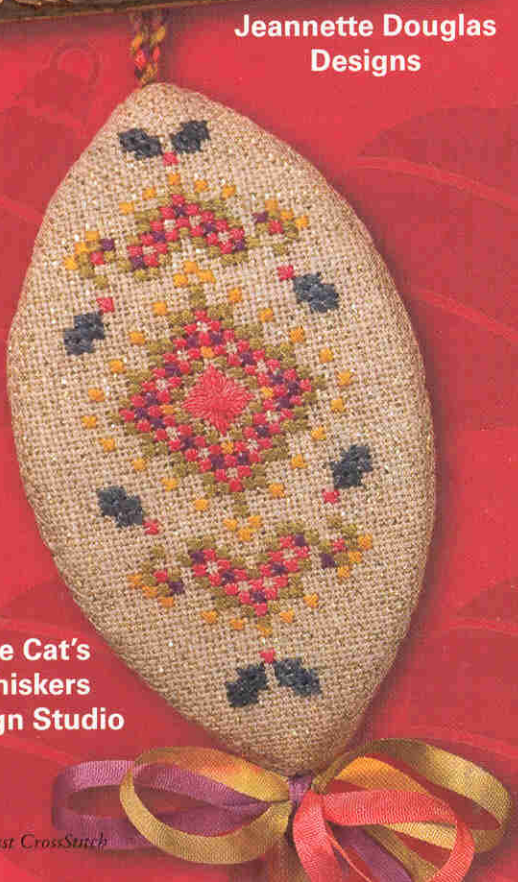
Sneak Peek

Christmas Ornament Issue Preview

Jeannette Douglas Designs



Designs by Cathy Jean

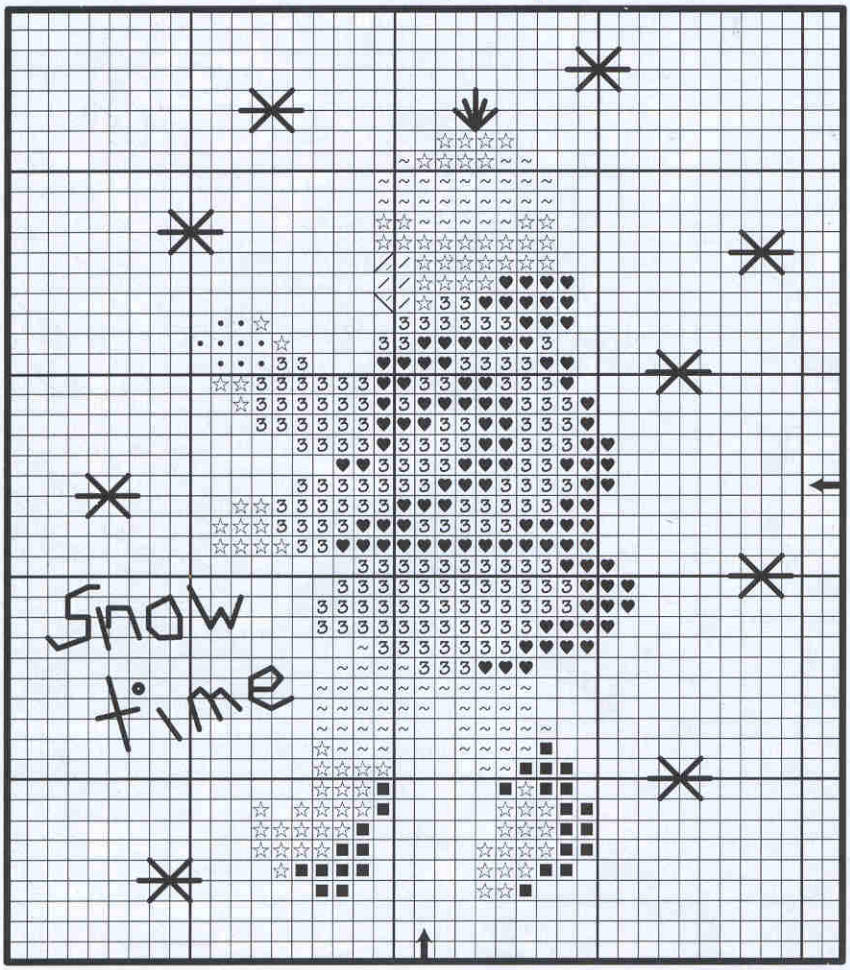


The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio

monsterbubbles

Get a jump start on your holiday stitching with these eight companions to the forthcoming 2008 Christmas Ornament Issue.

Snow Baby Emily



SNOW BABY EMILY

Designed by Cathy Coombes
of Designs by Cathy Jean

Materials:

- 7" x 7" piece 32-count white Lugana® linen from Zweigart®*
- One skein each Dinky Dyes silk embroidery floss**
- One skein each Kreinik Silk Mori™ embroidery floss**
- One skein Needlepoint Inc., silk embroidery floss**
- One spool Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4**
- One skein Access Commodites Appleton crewel wool**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

***Refer to color code.*

Dinky Dyes Silk Embroidery Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	025 (3350)	ruby
3	103 (3806)	bougainvillea

Kreinik Silk Mori™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

~	1092 (3354)	wood violet, vy. lt.
☆	4204 (3053)	sage, med.
■	4206 (3051	sage, dk.

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

	032	pearl

Needlepoint Inc. Silk Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

/	0121 (407)	flesh

Access Commodities Appleton Crewel Wool

•	991	white (turkey knot)

Stitch count: 42H x 37W
Design size: 2⅝" x 2⅜"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads for lettering, using one strand 4206.

Work French knot where ● appears in lettering, using one strand 4206 and wrapping floss around needle twice.

Work straight stitch for pompom on hat, using two strands 103.

Work turkey knot, using one strand 991. (**Note:** Begin on bottom row and work toward top. Work every row from left to right.) Trim loops to create plush effect for snowball.

Work modified Smyrna cross stitch over six threads for snowflakes, using one strand 032.

FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

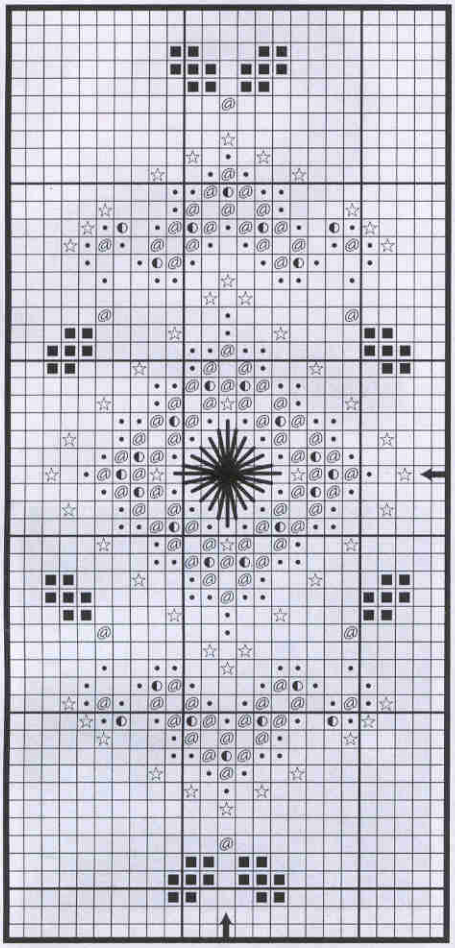
- One 3½"-diameter piece of foam-covered mounting board
- One 4½" x 4½" piece of polyester quilt batting
- 6" length twisted cording (Model uses DMC® B5200.)*
- Fabric-marking pencil
- X-Acto™ knife
- Fabric glue

**Twisted-cording instructions are on page 55.*

Using an X-Acto knife, trim mounting board to a 3½" circle. Center board against wrong side of stitched piece. Trim stitched piece to 1" beyond board. Fold seam allowance over sides of mouting board and lightly glue in place.

Fold length of twisted cording in half to form a loop. Glue ends of loop in place at top of wrong side of ornament.

Center wrong side of ornament to quilt batting and lightly glue in place. Trim batting edges to ½" from ornament edge on all sides.



A STITCHER'S CHRISTMAS THIMBLE POD

Designed by Janie Hubble
of The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio

Materials:

- Three 7" x 7" pieces 32-count gold/raw Belfast® linen from Zweigart®*
- One skein each Dinky Dyes Hand-Dyed silk embroidery floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

See "Where to Find It" on page 62.

***Refer to color code.*

Dinky Dyes Hand-Dyed Silk
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	52 (924)	emerald
◐	90 (552)	orchid
@	116 (326)	bottlebrush
•	142 (732)	gidgee
☆	143 (783)	lost gold
	148 (n/a)	Janie's Christmas

Stitch count: 49H x 21W
Design size: 3 1/8" x 1 1/3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

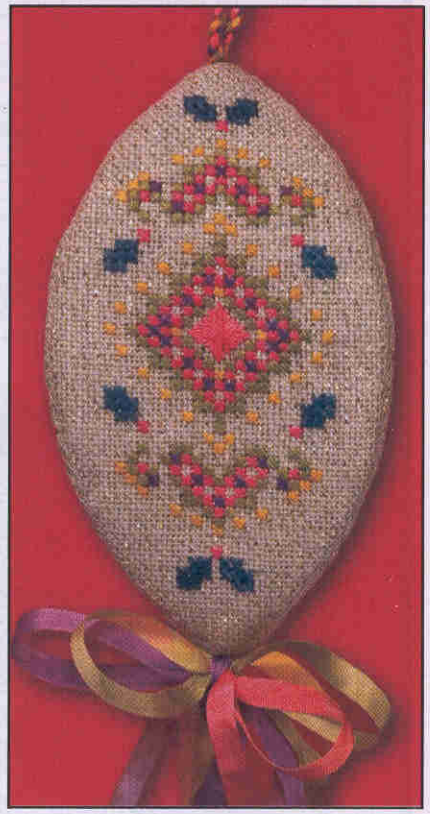
Work Rhodes diamond stitch over twelve threads, using two strands 148.

Repeat for remaining two pieces of linen. (**Note:** Rhodes diamond is stitched with 148 for each panel, using the pink section for first panel, purple section for second panel, and yellow section for third panel.)

FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- Three 6" x 6" pieces coordinating decorator fabric
- 8" x 8" piece white Skirtex (heavyweight interfacing)
- 75" length Dinky Dyes 148 Janie's Christmas 4mm silk ribbon
- 10" length twisted-cording (Model uses Dinky Dyes 148 Janie's Christmas silk floss.)*
- Coordinating sewing thread
- Hand-sewing needle



Press stitched pieces from back, straightening as much as possible. (**Note:** Do not use steam as silk flosses may run.) Using templates on this page, cut three Outer Pod pieces and three Pod Lining pieces from skirtex. Using one Outside Pod piece as a template, trace shape onto wrong side of stitched piece. Add a 1" seam allowance and cut out. Repeat for remaining two stitched pieces. Repeat process for decorator fabric, using Pod Lining template.

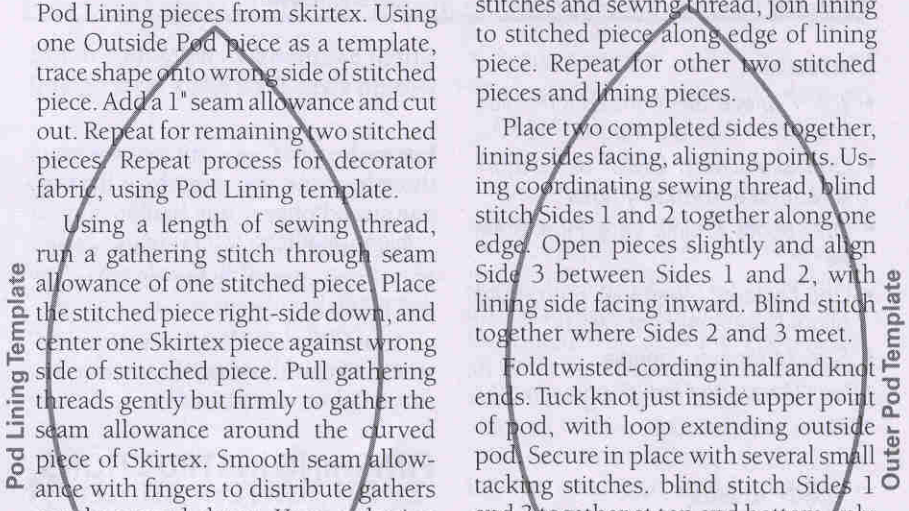
Using a length of sewing thread, run a gathering stitch through seam allowance of one stitched piece. Place the stitched piece right-side down, and center one Skirtex piece against wrong side of stitcched piece. Pull gathering threads gently but firmly to gather the seam allowance around the curved piece of Skirtex. Smooth seam allowance with fingers to distribute gathers evenly around shape. Knot gathering threads to secure. For a tighter finish, lace the seam allowances from side to side over the Skirtex (as if lacing a stitched piece over matboard in preparation for framing). Repeat process with remaining two stitched pieces and reamining Outer Pod Skirtex pieces. Repeat process to join decorator fabric pieces to Pod Lining Skirtex pieces.

Place one stitched piece and one lining piece wrong sides together, centering carefully. Using small overcast stitches and sewing thread, join lining to stitched piece along edge of lining piece. Repeat for other two stitched pieces and lining pieces.

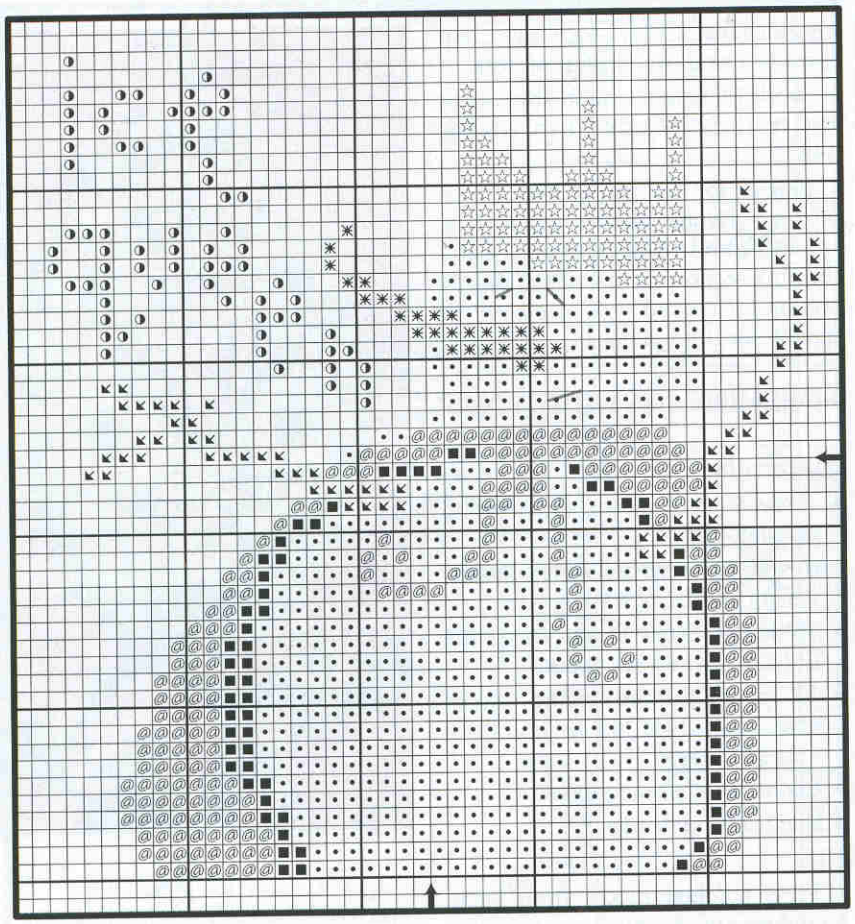
Place two completed sides together, lining sides facing, aligning points. Using coordinating sewing thread, blind stitch Sides 1 and 2 together along one edge. Open pieces slightly and align Side 3 between Sides 1 and 2, with lining side facing inward. Blind stitch together where Sides 2 and 3 meet.

Fold twisted-cording in half and knot ends. Tuck knot just inside upper point of pod, with loop extending outside pod. Secure in place with several small tacking stitches. blind stitch Sides 1 and 3 together at top and bottom only (approximately 1/2"), leaving a 2 1/2" opening in center of pod.

Cut ribbon into 5 lengths of 15"; stack ribbons atop each other and fold in half. Attach to bottom of pod, using several small tacking stitches. Tie ribbons in bows, trimming ends at an angle to prevent fraying.



Ice Queen



ICE QUEEN

Designed by Sue Rainer and Theresa Venette of Raise the Roof Designs

Materials:

- 7" x 7" piece 32-count antique blue linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss**
- One spool Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4**
- One package Swarovski 6mm Pure Allure Crystal Accent Beads**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

**Refer to color code.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
■	3371	382	black brown
.	3756	1037	baby blue, ul. vy. lt.
✳	721	324	orange spice, med.
@	3831	39	raspberry, dk.
◑	792	941	cornflower blue, dk.
◤	779	1088	cocoa, dk.

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

☆	002HL	gold, hi lustre

Swarovski 6mm Pure Allure Crystal Accent Beads
crystal flower

Stitch count: 48H x 45W
Design size: 3" x 2 7/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid.

Backstitch over two threads where gray lines appear, using two strands 3371/382.

Attach flower beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- 6" x 6" piece coordinating decorator fabric
- 4" x 4" piece padded mounting board
- 32" length 1/4"-diameter coordinating sheer ribbon
- Fabric-marking pencil
- Straight pins
- Sewing machine (optional)

Press stitched piece from back, straightening as much as possible. On reverse side of stitched piece, draw a line 1" from stitching on all sides, staying on grain of fabric. Do not cut fabric. Place ornament atop decorator fabric (right sides together) and pin layers together.

Sew around ornament along drawn line, leaving bottom of ornament open. Trim seam allowance to 1/4". Trim corners of seam allowance to 1/8". Turn ornament right-side out. Insert mounting board into ornament and blind stitch opening closed. Beginning at top-center, curl and twist ribbon, pinning in place with pins along ornament edge. When top center is reached again, form a loop and pin in place; trim as necessary.

JOYFUL BLESSINGS

Designed by Belinda Karls-Nace of Blue Ribbon Designs

Materials:

- Two 8" x 8" pieces 32-count latte Country French linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

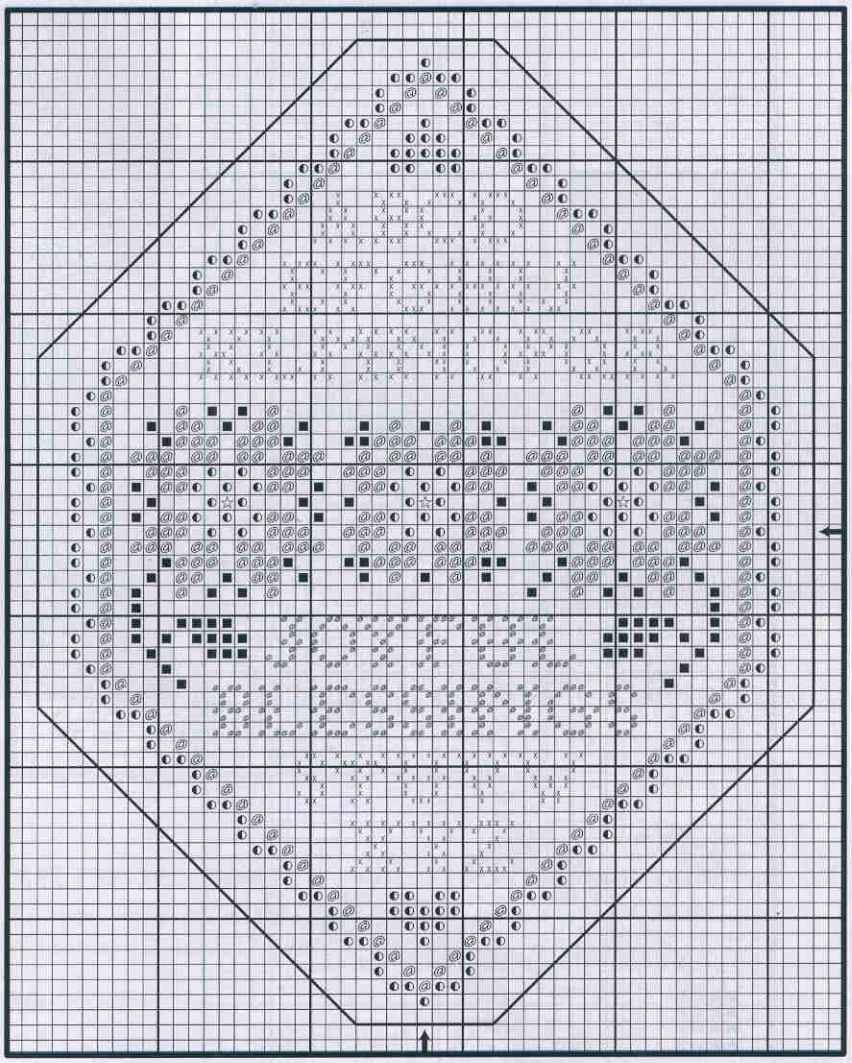
***Refer to color code.*

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	2156 (367)	hunter
◐	3860 (902)	crimson
☆	2220 (725)	curry
@	2264 (304)	garnet
■	1279 (319)	holly

Joyful Blessings



Stitch count: 65H x 51W
Design size: 4 1/8" x 3 1/4"

Instructions: On one piece of linen, cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads for outer border, using two strands 3860.

Repeat backstitched border on second piece of linen, using two strands 3860. Personalize as desired.

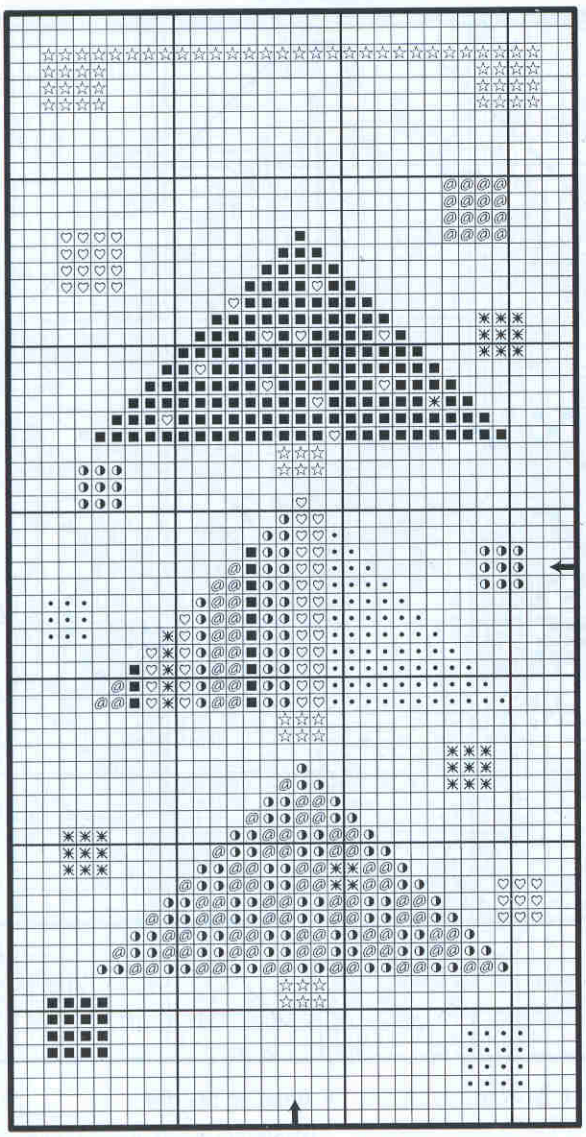
FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

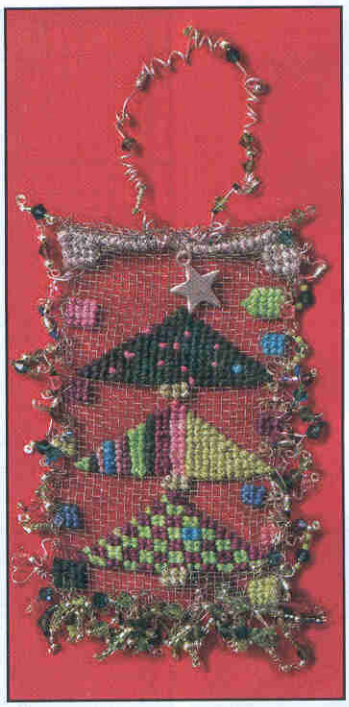
Materials:

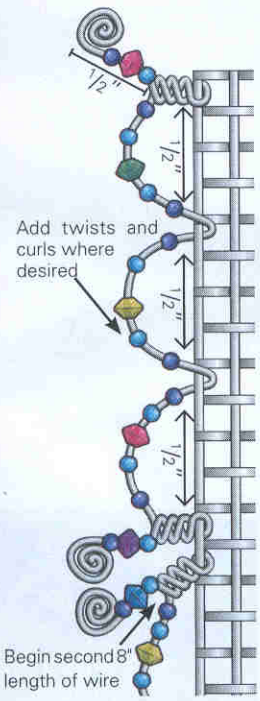
- One package Mill Hill® #02076 elderberry seed beads
- 8" length twisted cording (Model uses DMC® 902.)*
- Polyester fiberfill
- Beading needle

**Twisted-cording instructions are on page 55.*

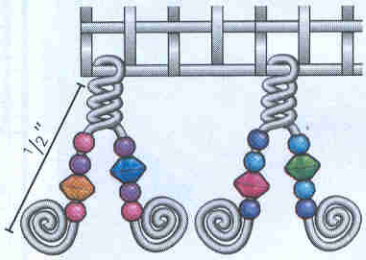
Press stitched piece from back, straightening as much as possible. (**Note:** Do not use steam as hand dyed flosses may run.) Trim excess fabric on both pieces of linen to 1/4" from backstitched border. Finger press seam allowances to wrong side. Place pieces with wrong sides together, carefully aligning corners. Using one strand 3860, lace backstitching together, adding one bead with each lacing stitch. Begin lacing at top center and lace around ornament until beginning point is nearly reached. Turn ornament right-side out and stuff. Continue lacing and adding beads until beginning point is reached. Add twisted cording hanger and blind stitch opening closed.







Side Beading



Fringe at Bottom

TRES

Designed by Heather Holland-Daly of monsterbubbles

Materials:

- 10" x 10" piece aluminum screen (approximately 18-count, available at hardward stores) ***or*** 18-count Aida*
- One skein each The Caron Collection Watercolours® hand-dyed cotton**
- One spool Kreinik Medium Braid #16**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

***Refer to color code.*

Caron Collection Watercolours®
DMC® Pearl Cotton #5 Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	140	(894)	Blackwatch
♡	190	(602)	fraises du bois
◑	158	(915)	grape
•	215	(470)	cilantro
@	188	(906)	Lime Rickey
✳	068	(517)	Mediterranean

Kreinik Medium Braid #16

☆	001	silver

Stitch count: 63H x 30W
Design size: 3 1/2" x 1 2/3"

Editor's Note: Counts on aluminum screens are not exact; be sure to count screen holes per inch before cutting screen and beginning. Also, screen holes aren't exactly square; decide if you would rather your trees be a tad longer or wider and orient the screen in the appropriate direction. Screen frays easily, so begin with a piece much larger than the stitched design.

Instructions: Cross stitch over one wire or one square, using one strand of Watercolours or one strand of braid.

Attach charm, using one strand coordinating floss.

FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- Ruler
- Needle-nosed beading pliers
- Wire snips
- 84" 30-gauge silver wire
- 12" 24-gauge silver wire
- Swarovski 4mm bicone beads of choice (Model uses beads in the following colors: olivine, peridot, emerald, fuchsia, amethyst, and indicolite.)*
- Delica® 11/0 beads of choice (Model uses beads in the following colors:

#003 green iris, #056 lined magenta AB, #060 lined lime AB, #876 matte opaque neon green AB, #914 lined crystal shimmer hot pink, and #920 lined crystal shimmer bright blue.)

- 3mm silver round beads

* See "Where to Find It" on page 62.

Trim stitched piece to ¾" from stitching on all sides. Using ruler, turn back a ½" seam allowance on all sides, pressing seam allowance flat against wrong side of stitched design. (**Note:** Be sure folded edge lays down as straight as possibly. Don't bend screen repeatedly, as wires will break.) Carefully snip away any sharp pieces that protrude from screen.

Cut an 8" length of wire; thread wire through top right corner of stitched piece and leave 1½"–2" protruding from back side of stitched piece. Using pliers, fold wire back on itself and twist together several times to secure in place against edge of ornament. String several beads onto wire. Use needle-nosed pliers to add loops and swirls in between beads, if desired. Insert wire back into ornament ½" below starting point. Continue making beaded loops in this manner until only 2" of wire remains. End wire by twisting tail around adjacent loop, adding beads and swirls as desired. Begin next length of wire approximately ½" before end of last length, creating a small overlap. Repeat process for remaining long side.

For bottom of ornament, repeat process, substituting shorter lengths of wire to achieve the look of fringe.

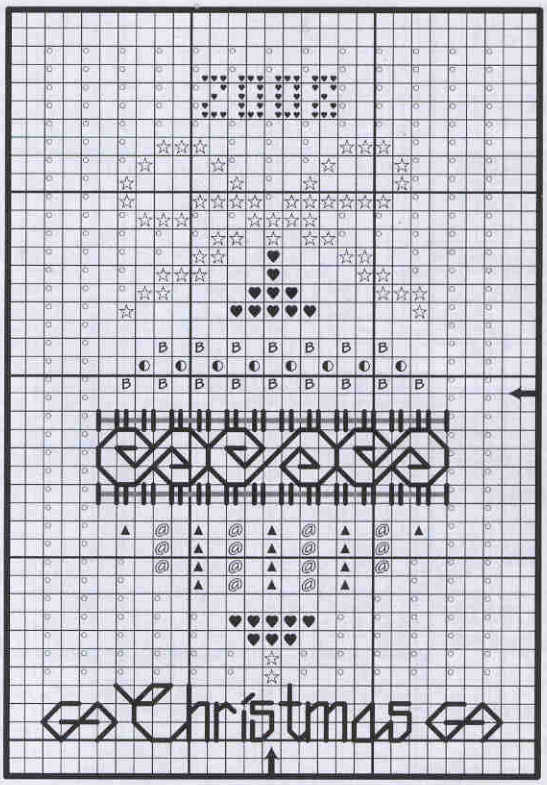
For hanger, use 24-gauge silver wire and begin the hanger as described above, adding swirls and beads as desired. End length by weaving end back into screen 1" from beginning point.

For more beading instructions and tips, contact Heather at *monsterbubbles@hotmail.com*.

"Beading is not for the faint of heart. It's fun and tricky. Feel free to experiment with different shapes, sizes, and colors of beads. You can also choose to finish the ornament in a completely different way."

—designer Heather Holland–Daly

Bell Ornament



BELL ORNAMENT

Designed by Jeannette Douglas of Jeannette Douglas Designs

Materials:

- 5" x 4" piece 32-count natural Belfast® linen from Zweigart®*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss**
- One ball DMC® or Anchor® pearl cotton #12**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Olde Colonial (#103G) tiny frame*

*See "Where to Find It" on page 62.

**Refer to color code.

DMC® Anchor® Embroidery Floss

♥	3858	897	rosewood, med.
@	926	850	gray green, med.
◐	926	850	gray green, med. (mosaic stitch)
▲	3768	779	gray green, dk.
Ƀ	3768	779	gray green, dk. (mosaic stitch)
	936	846	avocado green, dk.

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

☆	1223 (729)		schneckley

DMC® Anchor® Pearl Cotton #12

○	712	926	cream

Stitch count: 38H x 25W
Design size: 2⅜" x 1⅝"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for date, using one strand 3858/897.

Work tent stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for background, using one strand of pearl cotton.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work mosaic stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

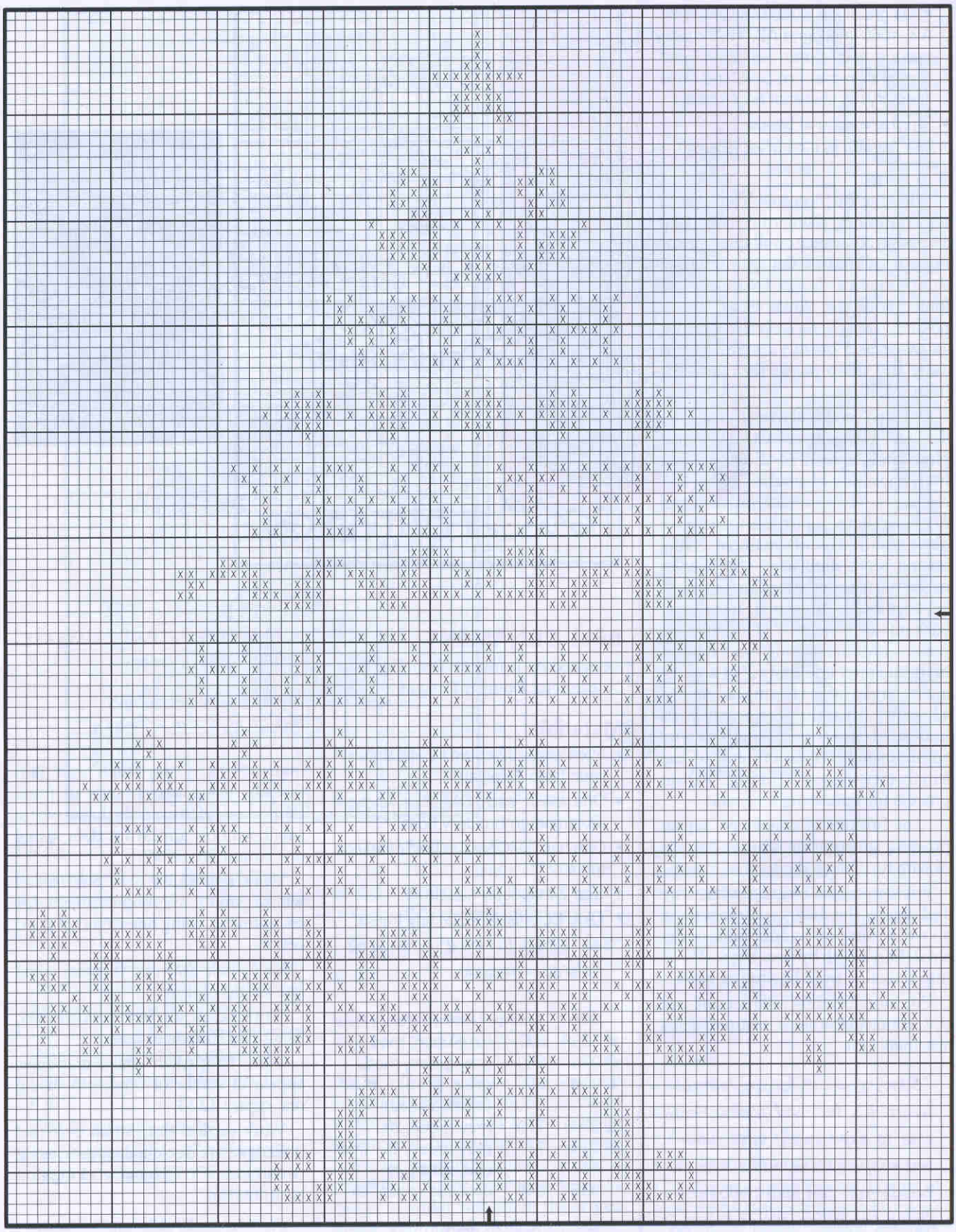
Work long stitch where gray lines appear at center of ornament, using one strand 1223.

Work vertical satin stitch over two threads where black lines appear, using two strands 936/846 and working atop long stitches.

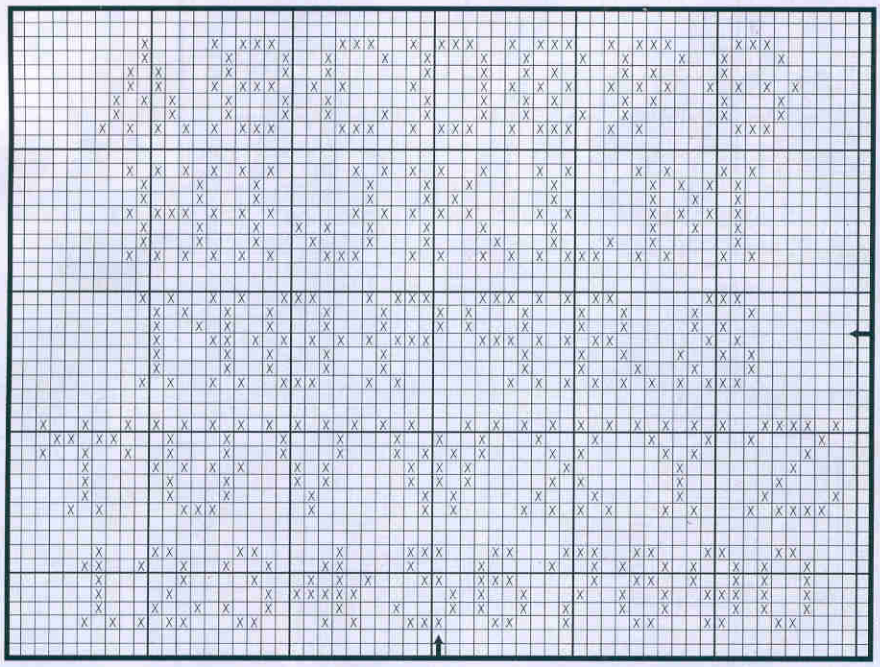
Backstitch instructions:

3858	897	swirls
936	846	lettering

Happiest of Holidays



Happiest of Holidays Alphabet



HAPPIEST OF HOLIDAYS

Designed by Sue Hillis
of Sue Hillis Designs

Materials:

- 7" x 7" piece 25-count white Lugana® from Zweigart®*
- One skein Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

See "Where to Find It" on page 62.

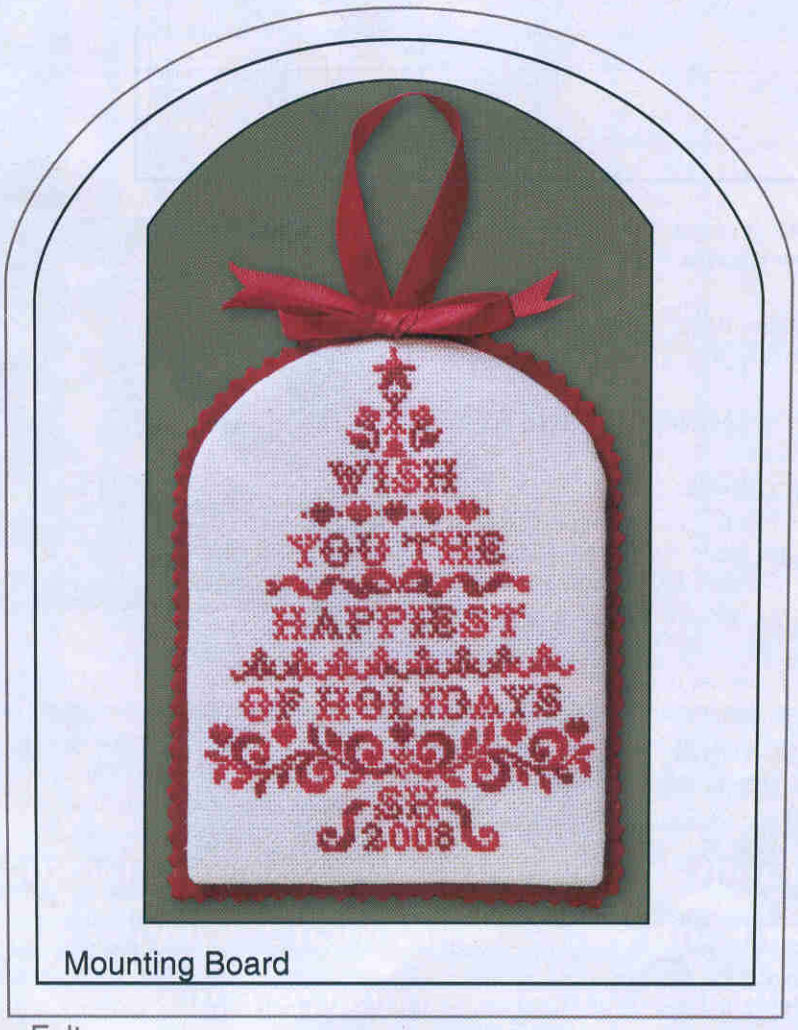
***Refer to color code.*

Weeks Dye Works™
Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X 2266 (321) Turkish red

Stitch count: 111H x 85W
Design size: 4 1/2" x 3 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss. Personalize as desired, using provided alphabet.



FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

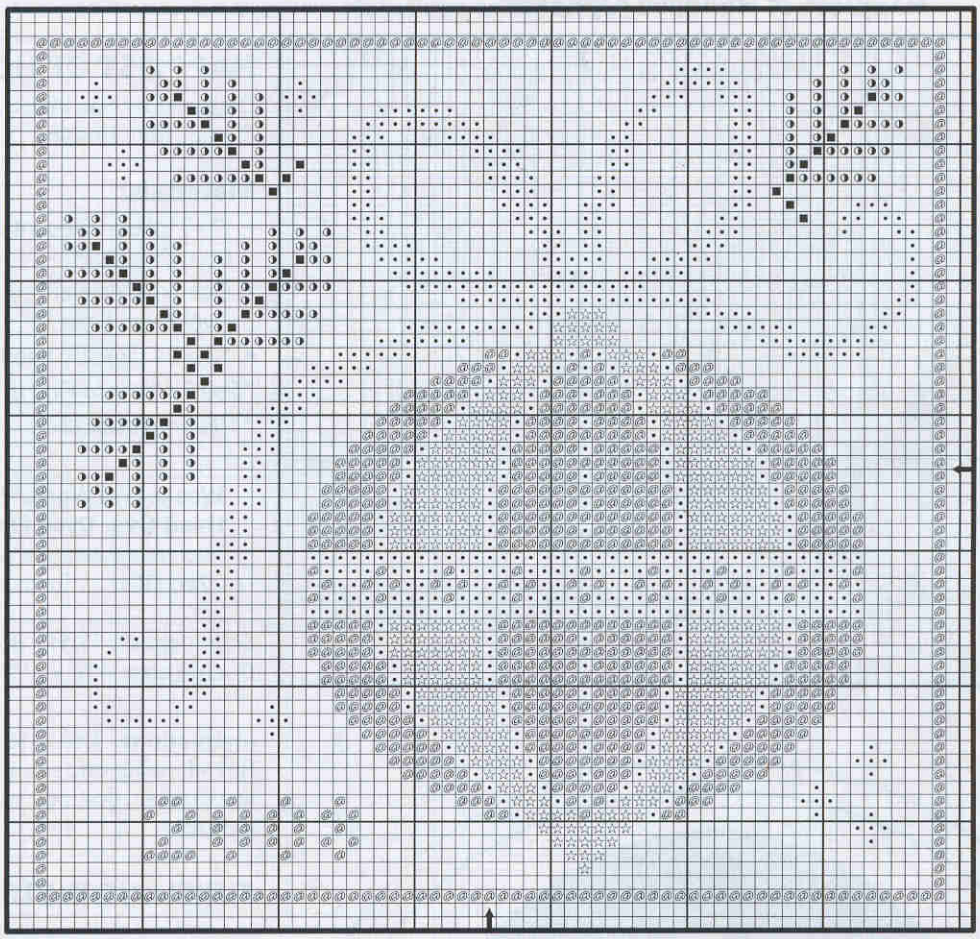
- 5" x 5" piece coordinating felt
- 5" x 5" piece padded mounting board
- 10" length 3/8"-diameter coordinating ribbon
- Pinking shears

Using template at left, cut out padded mounting board.

Press stitched piece from back, straightening as much as possible. (**Note:** Use dry iron as steam may cause over dyed colors to run.) Center mounting board, padded side down, against wrong side of stitched piece. Trim stitched piece to 1/2" beyond mounting board and lightly glue in place.

Using template and pinking shears, cut out felt. Center stitched piece atop felt and glue in pace. Fashion ribbon into a loop and take in place at top of ornament.

Silver and Blue



SILVER AND BLUE

Designed by Nikki Leeman
of Country Cottage Needleworks

Stitch count: 64H x 67W
Design size: 4" x 4 1/4"

Materials:

- 5" x 4" piece 32-count flax Belfast® linen from Zweigart®*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss**
- One skein DMC® metallic embroidery floss**
- One skein each Crescent Colours cotton floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

***Refer to color code.*

DMC® Anchor® Embroidery Floss

■	869	375	hazelnut brown, vy. dk.
◑	3362	263	pine green, dk.

DMC® Metallic Embroidery Floss

☆	5283	silver

Crescent Colours Cotton Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	deep fennel	(926)
·	snowball	(blanc)

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- 6" x 6" piece coordinating decorator fabric (Model uses Weeks Dye Works™ 2105 dungarees wool.)
- 20" length twisted-cording (Model uses DMC® 926.)*
- Polyester fiberfill
- Fabric-marking pencil
- Straight pins
- Sewing machine (optional)

**Twisted-cording instructions are on page 55.*

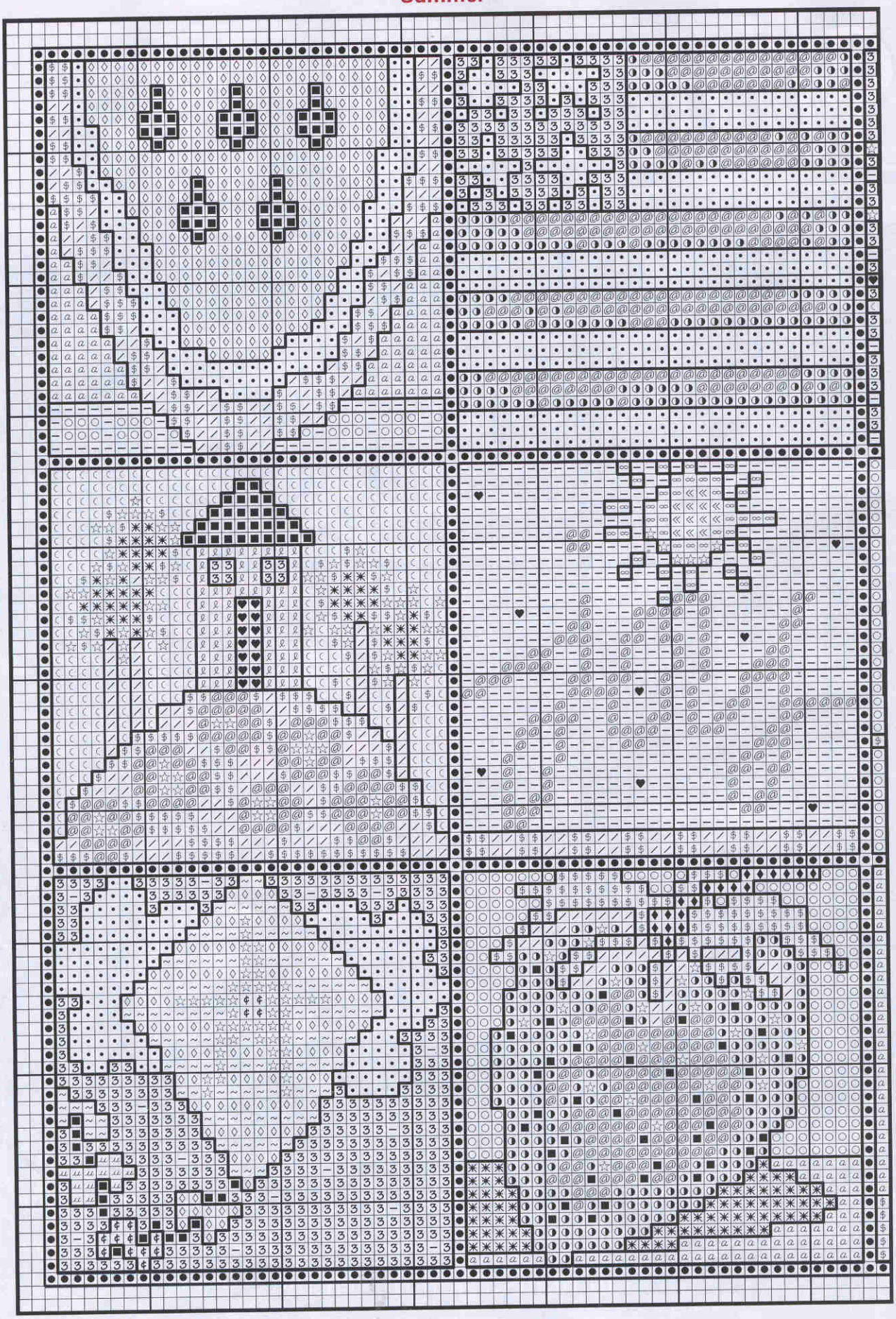
Press stitched piece from back, straightening as much as possible. (**Note:** Do not use steam as overdyed colors may run.) On reverse side of stitched piece, draw a line 1/4" from stitching on all sides, staying on grain of fabric. Do not cut fabric. Place ornament atop decorator fabric (right sides together) and pin layers together.

Sew around ornament along drawn line, leaving a 2" opening at top for turning. Trim seam allowance to 1/4". Trim corners of seam allowance to 1/8". Turn ornament right-side out. Stuff with fiberfill and blind stitch opening closed, leaving a 1/2" opening at top-center for cording. Blind stitch cording to perimeter of pillow. Form a loop from cording, insert ends into opening, and blind stitch opening closed.

Summer

Summer's boldest colors mingle together in flowers, fruit, a flag, and a beehive. Charming and cheerful, this checkerboard design is the third in a seasonal series by designing sisters Amy Brueken and Koneta Ann Hurlstone.

Summer



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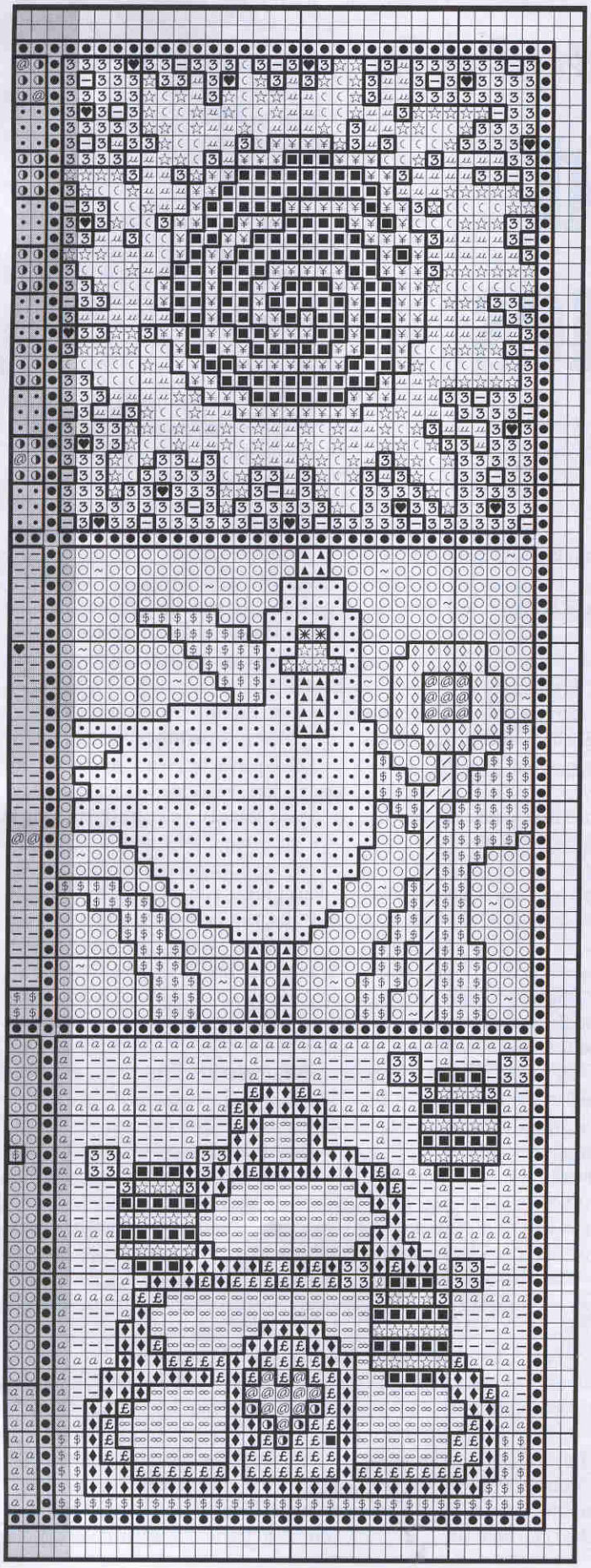


SUMMER

Designed by Amy Bruecken of Amy Bruecken Designs and Koneta Ann Hurlstone of Wildflower Stitchery & More

Materials:

- 13" x 13" piece 28-count lambswool linen ***or*** 14-count lambswool Aida from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Professionally framed*

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

***Refer to color code.*

	DMC®	Anchor®	
–	3811	1060	turquoise, vy. lt.
ш	3819	278	moss green, lt.
З	3810	1066	turquoise, dk.
♥	3808	1068	turquoise, ul. vy. dk.
¥	208	110	lavender, vy. dk.
■	310	403	black
@	666	46	red, bt.
◑	321	47	red
▲	720	325	orange spice, dk.
¢	721	324	orange spice, med.
◆	433	358	brown, med.
ℓ	435	365	brown, vy. lt.
«	744	301	yellow, pl.
☆	972	298	canary, dp.
●	3021	905	brown gray, vy. dk.
∞	743	302	yellow, med.
/	907	255	parrot green, lt.
☾	445	288	lemon, lt.
✳	3746	1030	blue violet, dk.
£	869	375	hazelnut brown, vy. dk.
~	605	1094	cranberry, vy. lt.
◊	602	57	cranberry, med.
·	3865	2	winter white
a	155	1030	blue violet, med. dk.
○	971	316	pumpkin
$	906	256	parrot green, med.

Stitch count: 94H x 94W
Design size: 6 3/4" x 6 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads on linen or over one square on Aida, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads on linen or over one square on Aida, using one strand 310/403.

Stitched by Linda Nelson

Faux Punch-Needle Embroidery, Part IV:

Tips and Techniques

by Martha Beth Lewis

General Techniques

In a faux punch-needle embroidery piece, knots must be packed closely enough to avoid empty spaces, but you won't know how many you'll need for a specific fabric count until you work on your *doodlecloth* (fabric scrap). Don't look at the cross stitch chart, see four squares, and assume you'll need four knots.

Stitch from the front of the work. Unlike true punch needle, you'll be able to see your work as the design develops. Bury tails as you normally do, using an away waste knot in order to control knot orientation and tension. (See sidebar.)

Punch needle is commonly worked in rows. Faux work can be worked vertically, horizontally, or, perhaps better, in random fashion, as long as you work in "clumps," which helps control tension.

The larger the piece, the more likely it is to pucker. *Mount the fabric and keep it drum-head taut.*

If you are combining faux punch needle with cross stitch or other stitches, do the knots last.

Backgrounds may be filled or left open.

Order of Work

Work the image outline first, putting your knots just *outside* the drawn lines to ensure the line is covered, changing colors as needed. Then, work the perimeters of the color blocks within the image, followed by interior details. Last, fill color areas, working from the center outward.

In Figure 1, the apples and trunk whorl details have been completed, as well as image outline and perimeters of the color blocks. The green leaf area has been started and is being worked from the center outward.

Threads

Elasticity. Thread types vary in "stretchiness." Don't hesitate to use blended needles of thread types, but be aware of dissimilar elasticity.

Doodle a good deal to find out whether non-compatibility will drive you nuts after four knots.

Let me warn you particularly about combining floss and blending filament: high likelihood of a tension nightmare! Instead of a mixed needle, nestle separate blending filament knots among floss knots. Doodle to decide how many strands—probably at least two. Don't pull these knots down to the fabric surface; they'll be buried in the floss knots. Use the "floss knot surface," pulling just a tad so they sink into the texture a bit.

Metallic thread. Knots of metallic threads are extremely challenging. Practice until you have complete control.

Consider metallic threads for accent knots only. They are very reflective. Look at Anchor's single ply metallics and metallic floss.

Space-dyed thread. Space-dyed thread gives the impression of traditional rug-hooking with hand-dyed wool strips, which are not consistent in color distribution. Prune this thread often for color control. Your doodlecloth will suggest how often based the size and "look" of the area being stitched and knot size.

Slippery thread. Knots of rayon and silk are tricky. Doodle! Rayon is good for accents, too.

Pearl cotton. Though we often don't think of making knots with it, pearl cotton may be just the right size and texture for the look you want.

Wool. This thread (look at Rainbow Gallery's extensive collection) lends itself to "roughing up" with a bunka brush for a furry critter or evergreen wreath.

Thread length. It's ok to use 15" lengths (18" is too long!), even though the thread will become a little fuzzy, because the knots will be packed tightly and a teensy bit of thread fuzziness will be hidden. Start a new piece when there are 3"–4" left on the working thread.

Use a 1" tail from the eye to keep the tail from tangling in the knot-in-progress.

Thread preparation. Strip and moisten floss to maximize "loft" and encourage cooperation, respectively. Strip and moisten simultaneously by drawing a strand across a damp sponge as you pull it from the cut length.

Stitches

Use colonial or French knots on your first project. While perfect for miniatures or details, leave Pekin knots (French knots with one strand) for your second project, unless you already can make French and colonial knots confidently. See Figures 3 and 4 for step-by-step diagrams.

For larger knots, use more strands or a thicker thread. I know what you are thinking: I'll do extra wraps! No, indeedy! You'll have floppy, ugly knots, not larger ones!

For smaller knots, use fewer strands or thinner thread—or both. Or, make Pekin knots.

When doing knots in counted thread work, the needle sinks diagonally from where it rises. Usually, this is "to the Northeast." With faux punch needle, feel free to straddle vertical and horizontal threads, too. In fact, this randomness keeps the work from looking mechanical.

Although you will pack the knots tightly together, one knot over each fabric thread likely will be too many unless you're using Pekin knots. (Did you doodle?)

Similarly, don't keep the knots' "dimples" in the same place. When working a group of knots, the hallmark of perfectly-controlled technique is when the dimples

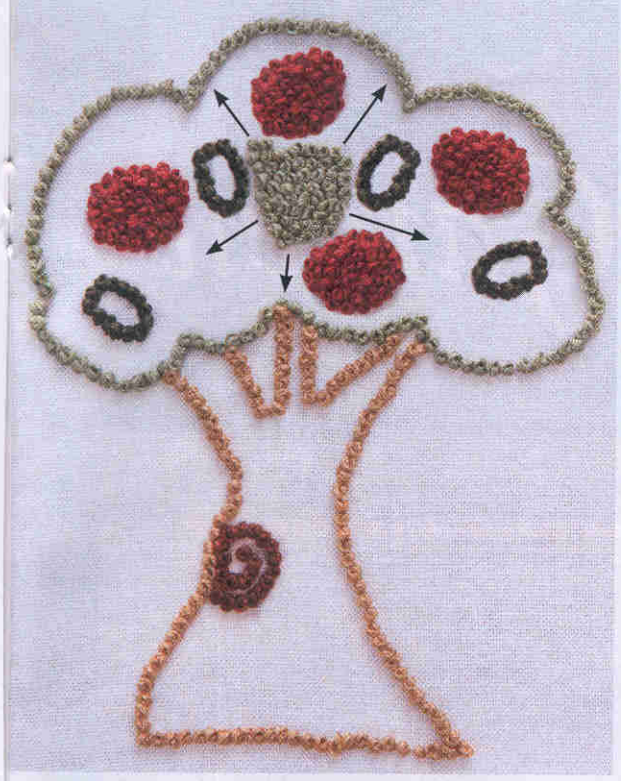


Figure 1. Begining a faux-knot design. Apples and trunk whorl details have been completed, as well as image outline and perimeters of the color blocks. The green leaf area has been started and is being worked from the center outward.

are in the same orientation. For faux work, you want randomness, so hold the working thread in various directions or turn the work, rather than holding the thread only "due West." (More on French and colonial knots, including discussion of "due West" in the February and April 2007 issues.)

Happy stitching!

Away Waste Knot

Make a large knot at the end of the thread and sink it on the top of the work, about 3" from where you will make the first knot. When finished with that thread, clip off the knot and thread the tail into the needle.

Articles in This Series

Part I: History and Where to Find Patterns (February 2008)

Part II: Transforming a Charted Design (April 2008)

Part III: Supplies and Finishing, including the example project (June 2008)

Part IV: Tips and Techniques (this issue)

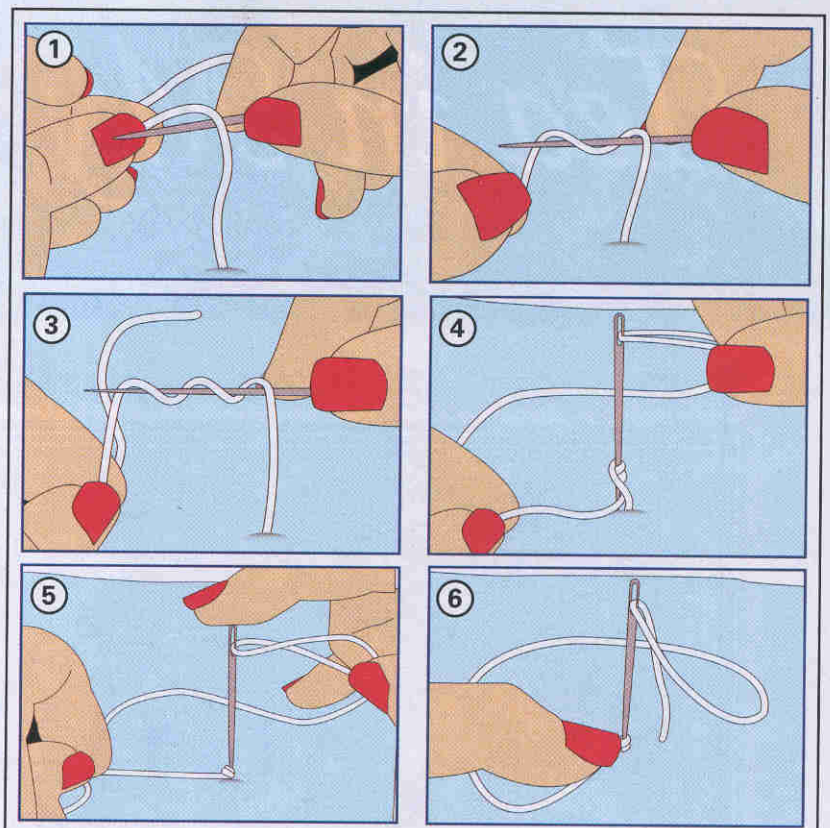


Figure 2. The steps of a French knot.

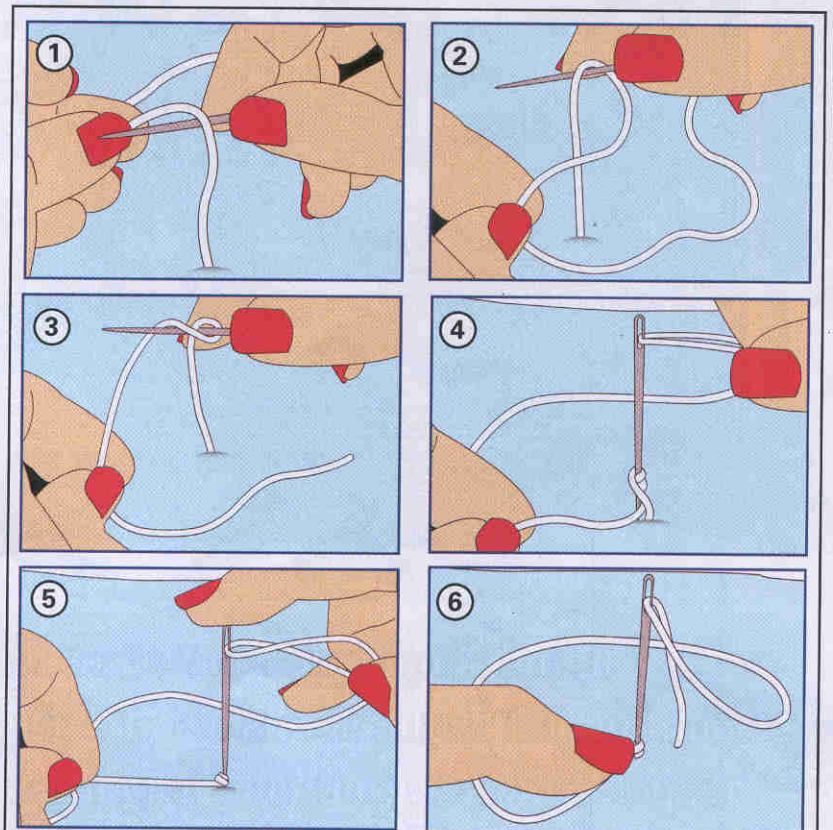
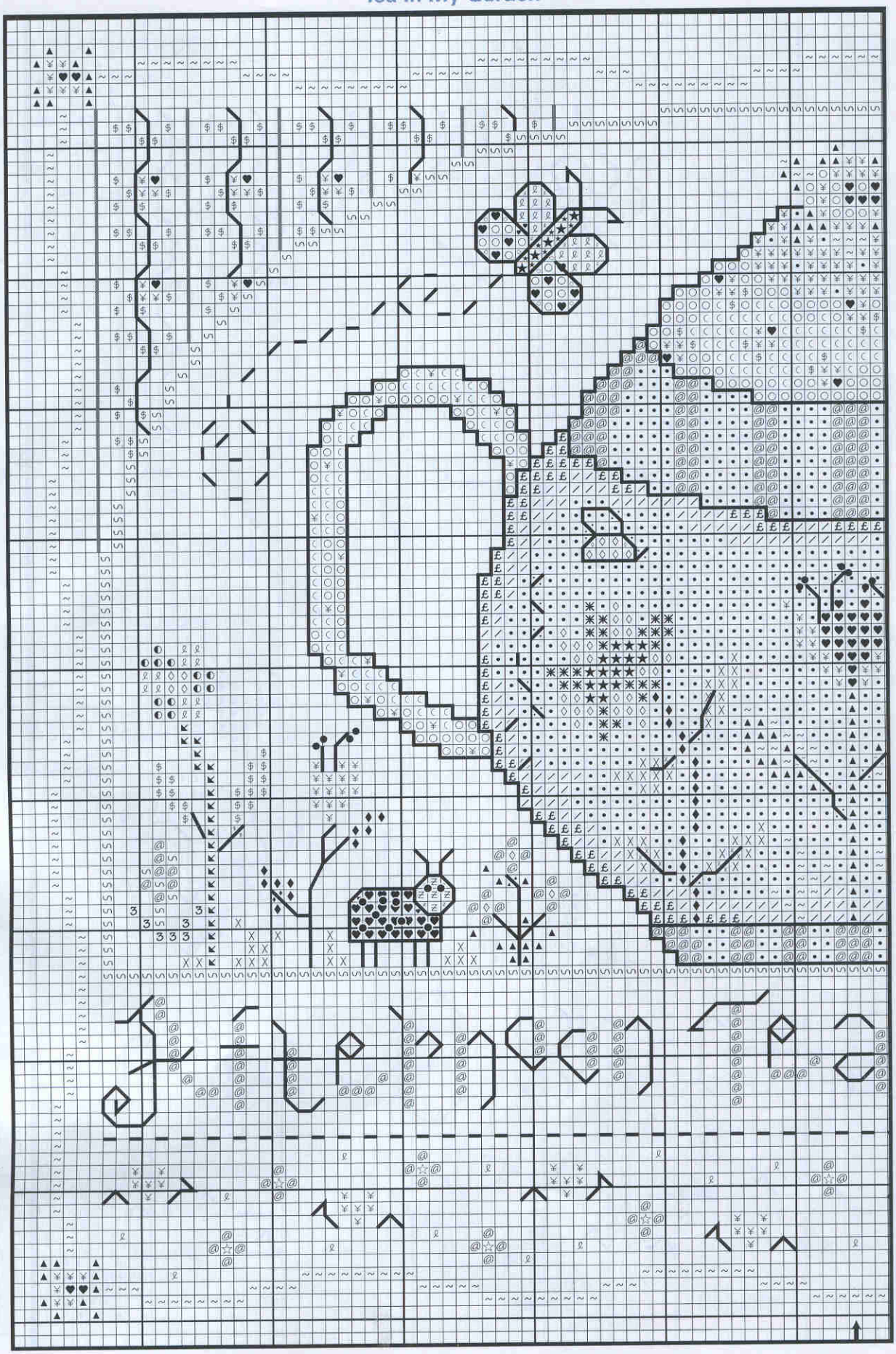


Figure 3. The steps of a colonial knot.

Tea in My Garden

Oh, the simple pleasure of a sunny summertime tea! Surrounded by the flourishes of a garden in bloom, this dainty teapot evokes warmth and happiness with its delicate stitches and whimsical design.



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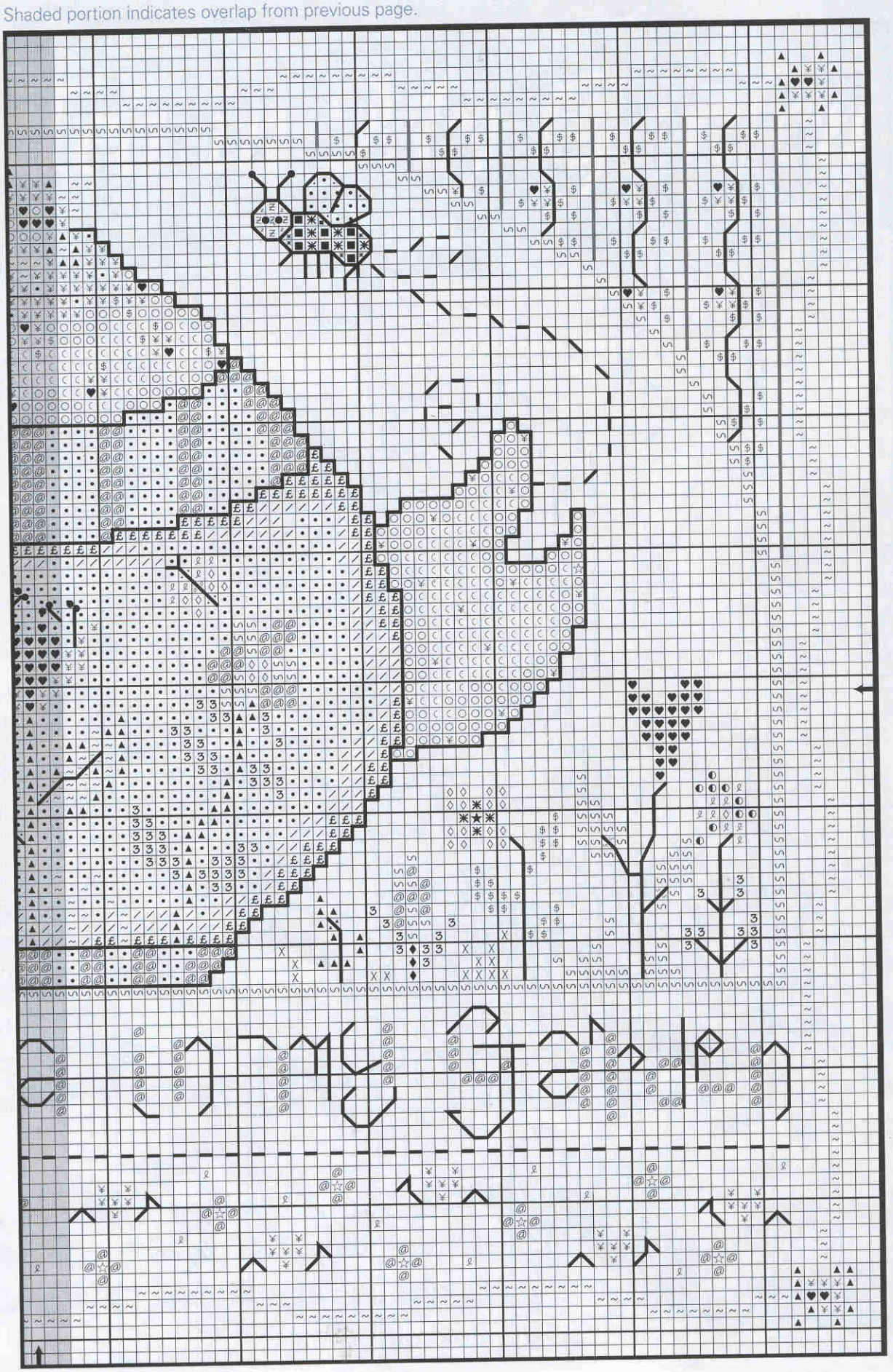


TEA IN MY GARDEN

Designed by Gail Bussi

Materials:

- 13" x 15" piece 28-count star sapphire Jobelan from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss (Model uses DMC®.)**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Professionally framed*

*See "Where to Find It" on page 62.

**Refer to color code.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
♥	223	895	shell pink, lt.
¥	224	893	shell pink, vy. lt.
○	225	1026	shell pink, ul. vy. lt.
◆	320	215	pistachio green, med.
X	368	214	pistachio green, lt.
★	436	363	tan
⸌	502	877	blue green
$	503	876	blue green, med.
▲	522	860	fern green
ऽ	523	859	fern green, lt.
£	644	391	beige gray, med.
☆	676	891	old gold, lt.
☾	819	271	baby pink, lt.
⁄	822	390	beige gray, lt.
@	926	850	gray green, med.
~	927	849	gray green, lt.
◐	3041	871	antique violet, med.
ℓ	3042	870	antique violet, lt.
ℨ	3364	261	pine green
≥	3779	868	terra cotta, ul. vy. lt.
■	3790	904	beige gray, ul. dk.
✳	3854	313	autumn gold, med.
◊	3855	311	autumn gold, lt.
·	3865	2	winter white
	3768	779	gray green, dk.

Stitch count: 98H x 125W
Design size: 7" x 9"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work partial stitches where small symbols appear, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work French knot where ● appears, using one strand of floss and wrapping floss around needle once.

Backstitch instructions:

320	215	stems on pink flower on left and purple flower on right of teapot; stems and leaves at bottom of design
502	877	vines in top corners; stems of purple flower on left and yellow flower on right of teapot
522	860	flower stems of blue flower on left, green plant and pink flower on right of teapot
676	891	dashed line under lettering
3768	779	lettering, vertical lines between vines (gray lines)
3790	904	remainder of backstitch

French-knot instructions:

676	891	stamens on pink flower next to ladybug
3790	904	eyes and antennae of bee and ladybug
3855	311	stamens on pink flower on teapot

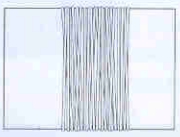
Stitched by Lenor Ortiz

TASSEL-MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- One skein of floss (**Note:** Refer to ornament color code for specific color and fiber used.)
- Square piece sturdy cardboard, approximately 1" larger than desired finished size of tassel
- Hand-sewing needle
- Scissors

1. Cut two 6" lengths of floss from full skein, to be used for tying top of tassel.
2. Wrap remaining floss around cardboard, referring to Illustration 1 and being careful not to bend cardboard by wrapping floss too tightly.
3. Slip one 6" length of floss under wrapped floss at top edge of cardboard and tie securely, referring to Illustration 2. Do not trim floss tails.
4. Carefully remove cardboard.
5. Referring to Illustration 3, wind second 6" length of floss around neck of tassel, ¼"–½" from top of tassel. Thread needle with floss tail and wrap around tie several times, referring to Illustration 4. Bury floss end in tassel. Repeat for remaining floss tail.
6. Cut along bottom of tassel through all fibers. Trim bottom of tassel to desired length and so that floss is even.
7. Attach tassel to ornament, using floss tail at top of tassel to secure.



ILL. 1

ILL. 2

ILL. 3

ILL. 4

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Medieval Reflections

Nancy Spies

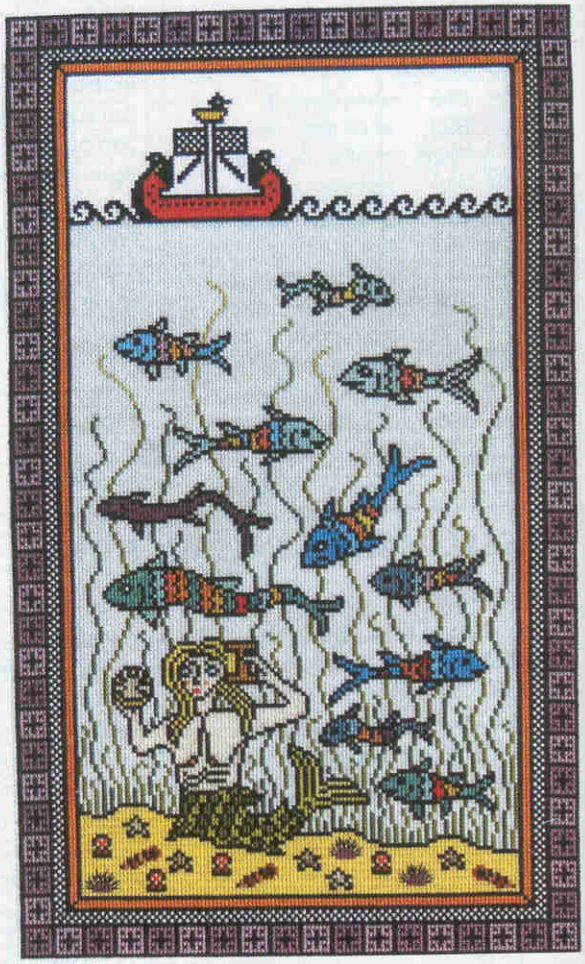
When it comes to cross stitch, Nancy Spies is an old-fashioned girl: she likes DMC floss and plain old Aida fabric. Nothing fancy. When it comes to her cross-stitch designs, she's extremely old-fashioned: she takes her inspiration from medieval and Renaissance artwork created hundreds of years ago.

Although she learned handwork at an early age from a multitalented mother, it took historical research to turn Nancy's needlework skills from an occasional hobby into a consuming passion.

"My introduction to historical needlework came through my participation in a medieval reenactment society. I 'became' a Viking and wanted to learn all the textile crafts that a ninth-century woman from Scandinavia would have done, such as sprang, nalbinding, and weaving on a warp-weighted loom," Nancy says. "You get really exposed to a lot of wonderful textiles doing research in whatever medieval or Renaissance field you are interested in, and in the past five years or so, I've become interested in the various needlework techniques, although I certainly don't do them all."

Nancy's designing career in cross stitch was an unintended result of a book that she wrote on the history of brocaded tablet weaving. "I kept stumbling over the most fascinating designs and motifs that had nothing to do with that particular research but stuck in the back of my head. Until the Renaissance, most manuscript illuminations were done by outlining the design and then filling them in with color. It occurred to me that these could be 'translated' to charts and that cross stitch would be the perfect medium to do them in." Nancy put her vision into action and filled her first cross-stitch book, *Here Be Wyverns*, with borders and motifs that she had charted from medieval sources.

The name she chose for her design company, Arelate Studio, recalls the historical period that so inspires her. "My editor called one day and said, 'You need a company name now' as we were



Medieval Mermaid

Bunny Battle

Musical Angels

getting close to printing. I was studying an early Frankish tribe called the Merovingians at the time–they lived in present-day France–and I was reading about Arles, in southern France. Its Roman name was Arelate, and voila!" Nancy explains. "It is pronounced, by the way, Air-eh-latte (as in coffee)."

In the process of charting motifs for her book, Nancy began to envision samplers and scenes that combined design elements from multiple sources. Soon she began to design and publish these creative interpretations of medieval sources as individual leaflets.

"That has been the true design work, pulling together disparate designs and making a fuller, more 'picture-esque' design," she explains. "My own designs are graphic in that they are simple with outlining and generally large blocks of color. So although these pictorial elements of medieval illumination are graphic, they were seldom, if ever, done in needlework techniques."

Nancy says she spends countless hours poring over books, exhibition catalogues, on-line sources, and any other primary source material that she can locate. "A tiny design from a border will catch my eye or, perhaps, a large and bold lion will. Very careful studying of, say, an illuminated page from a medieval manuscript can provide designs where you least expect to find them. Many designs also come from actual archaeological artifacts such as carved stone or wood, extant textiles, et cetera," Nancy says.

A California native who lived her adult life in Norway, Australia, Germany, and England, Nancy today lives in Maryland with her husband, Bob, who shares her enthusiasm for historical research. "We live near Johns Hopkins University whose library is chock-a-block with books with medieval and Renaissance designs. There are now many online sources for manuscripts, which has been wonderful sources for design," Nancy says.

Historical research leaves Nancy with no shortage of design ideas. "With a colleague, Lea Sears, I am starting a new line of designs that will appear under the Arelate Studio which are based on the cross-stitched designs of Mary, Queen of Scots, while she was being held prisoner by Elizabeth I," Nancy says. "We are taking the main animals from the same design books that Mary used. We are using an Elizabethan range of floss and silk colors, but we are adding some fun things to tweak the overall design, such as funny little creatures in the four corners." The first of four "Inspired By Mary" designs, a rabbit, will be available in fall 2008.

Nancy credits her success to a large circle of family and friends who have helped her find her niche within the cross-stitch world. "My amazing husband makes it possible for me to stay home and work on my research and designing full-time. He also does amazing final proofreading of my books and manages to catch all the mistakes that my editor and I have managed to miss," Nancy says. "When a book is in the stage of all the separate designs being charted, I will have a 'proofreading party' of wonderful friends who very kindly go through each pattern and find missing symbols or offer suggestions."

Her largest debt of gratitude, however, for all her medieval and Renaissance patterns are the period sources themselves: "They speak to me, and I feel so honored to be able to make them available to the modern stitching public."

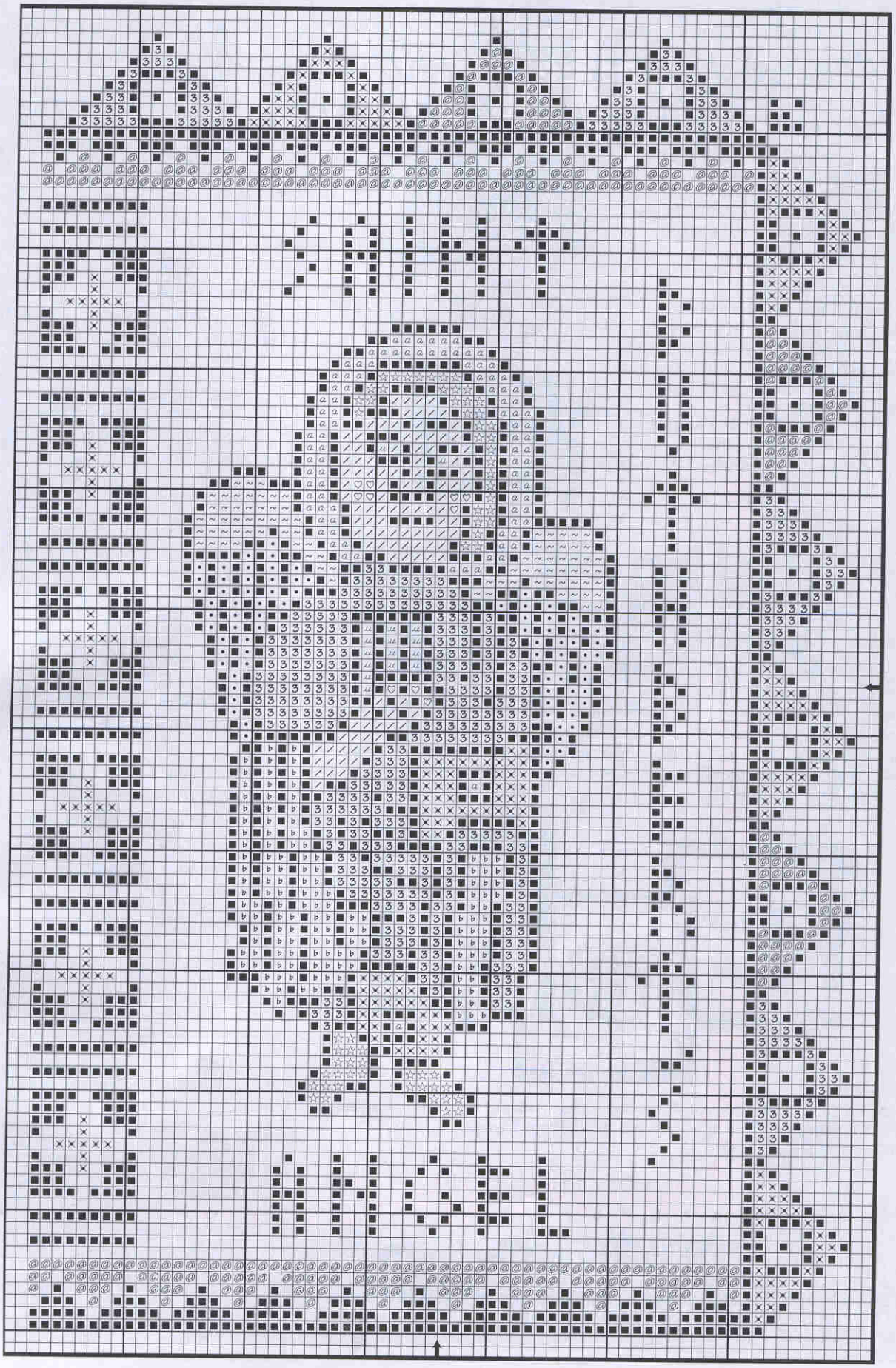
View Nancy's designs online at *www.weavershand.com/ArelateStudio.html*. Write to Nancy at 1725 Trotting Court, Jarrettsville, Maryland 21084, or via e-mail at *snspies@aol.com*.

Putto and Pomegranates...

St. Cuthbert's Angel

This striking angel is an adaptation of a figure carved into the wooden coffin of Cuthbert of Lindisfarne, an important medieval saint whose seventh-century relics are interred at Durham Cathedral in England.

St. Cuthbert's Angel



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Extra pillow form, #94420, 9.99 each

Bouquet Samplers
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#72400, 29.99 per month **Frame, #94320, 49.99 each**

Calendar Cats
Margaret Sherry's directions, 14-ct antique-white Aida cloth, carded cotton floss, needle, chart and directions. 8" x 8" unmatted. From England.
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ST. CUTHBERT'S ANGEL

Designed by Nancy Spies
of Arelate Studio

Materials:

- 17" x 13" piece 18-count white Aida ***or*** 36-count Edinburgh linen from Zweigart®**
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Professionally framed*

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*
***Refer to color code.*

	DMC®	Anchor®	
■	310	403	black
•	blanc	2	white
✖	355	1014	terra cotta, dk.
@	501	878	blue green, dk.
⩊	502	877	blue green
☆	921	1003	copper
3	930	1035	antique blue, dk.
♭	931	1034	antique blue, med.
~	932	1033	antique blue, lt.
♡	3778	1013	terra cotta, lt.
a	3822	298	straw, lt.
/	ecru	387	ecru

Stitch count: 108H x 68W
Design size: 6" x 3⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square on Aida or over two threads on linen, using two strands of floss.

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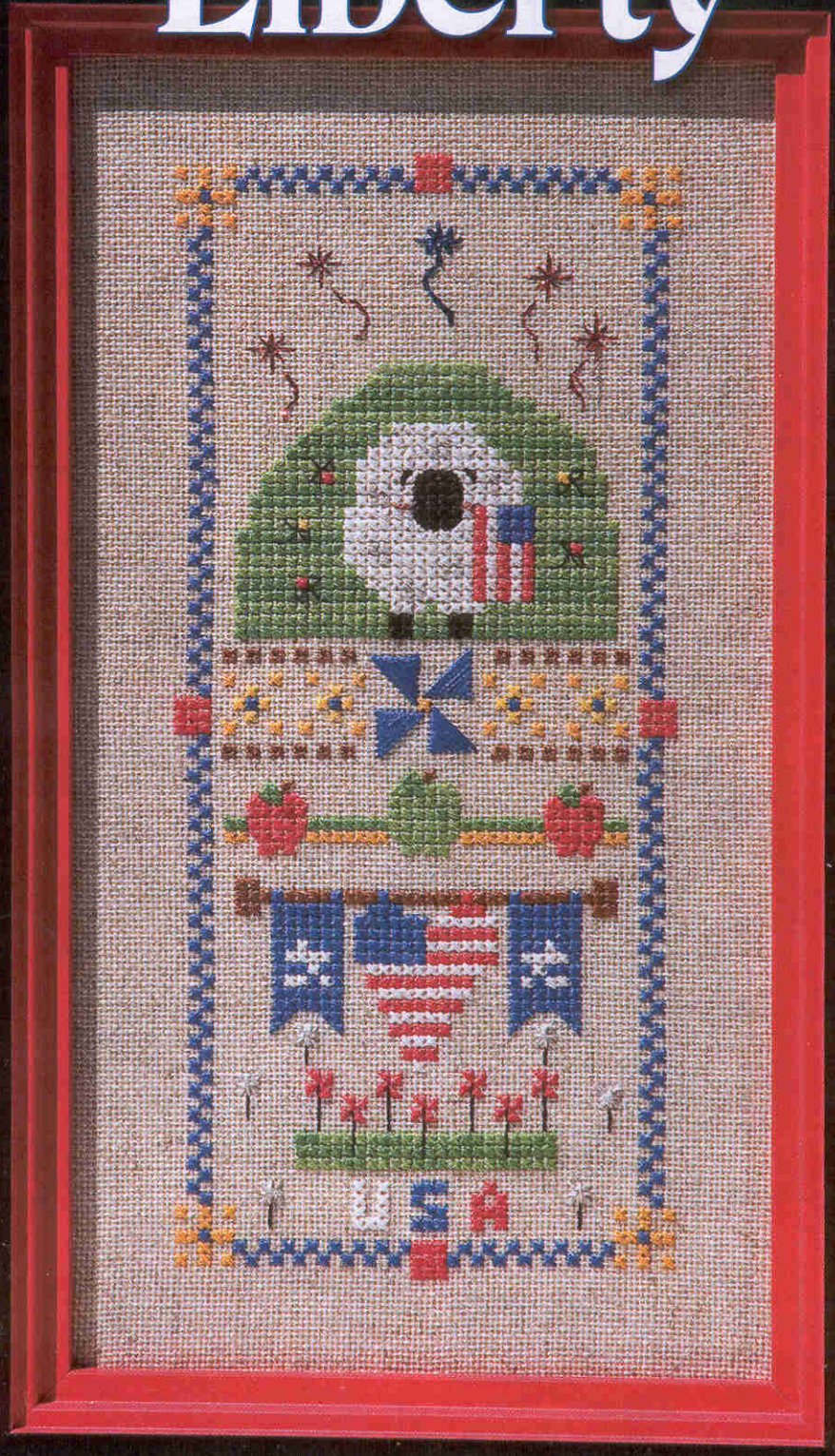
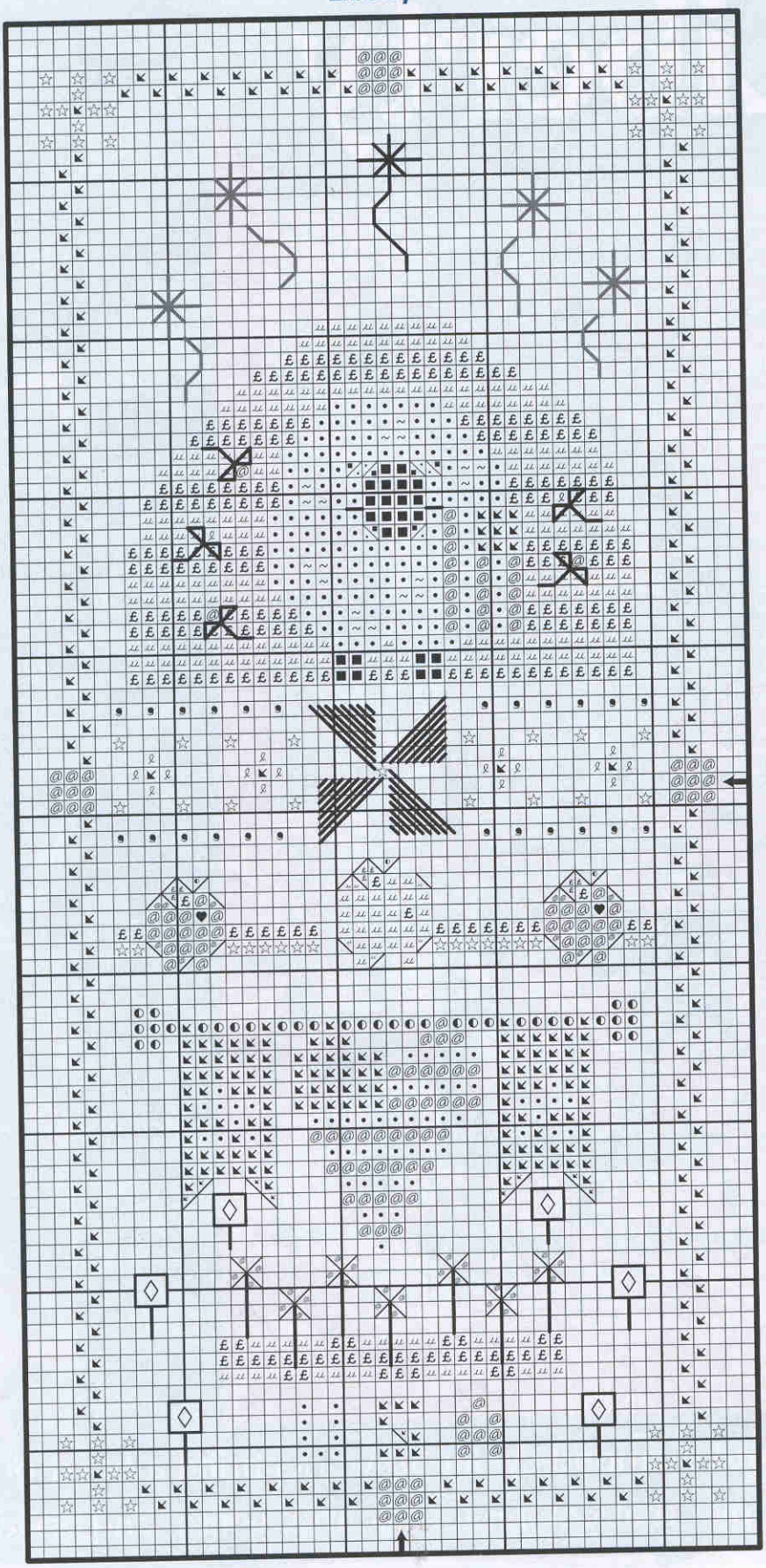
Liberty



Satin-stitch pinwheels and diamond-eyelet fireworks bring a burst of patriotism to a petite sampler that celebrates the red, white, and "ewe."



LIBERTY

Designed by Angie Williams
of Sweet Pea Designs

Materials:

- 14" x 10" piece 25-count natural pearl linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each Needlepoint Inc. silk embroidery floss**
- One spool Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4**
- One spool Kreinik Fine Braid #8**
- One spool Kreinik Blending Filament**
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Professionally framed*

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

**Refer to color code.*

Needlepoint Inc.

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

• white (blanc)	white
@ 501A (666)	Chinese red, vy. lt.
♥ 502 (321)	Chinese red, med. lt.
ıı 411 (703)	chartreuse, lt.
£ 413 (702)	chartreuse, dk.
ł 554 (726)	canary yellow, med. lt.
☆ 555 (972)	canary yellow, med. dk.
◤ 822 (798)	ultramarine, lt.
◐ 766 (433)	sable brown, dk.
๑ 766 (433)	sable brown, dk. (Algerian eye stitch over two)
■ 588 (310)	burnt amber, vy. dk.
~ 671 (415)	pearl gray, vy. lt.

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

◊ 101	platinum (Smyrna cross stitch over four)

Kreinik Fine Braid #8

051HL	sapphire high lustre

Kreinik Blending Filament

003HL	red high lustre

Stitch count: 93H x 42W
Design size: 7 1/2" x 3 3/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work partial stitch over two threads where small symbols appear, using

two strands of floss. (**Note:** Thin lines indicate stitch placement and are not to be backstitched.)

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work Algerian-eye stitch over two threads, using one strand 766.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads, using two strands 101.

Work diamond-eyelet stitch where lines appear for fireworks in sky, using one strand fine braid #8 for black lines or two strands of blending filament for gray lines.

Work diagonal satin stitch for pinwheel in center of design, using two strands 822.

Backstitch instructions:

051HL	trail from center firework
003HL	remaining trails from fireworks (gray lines)
766	flag pole
588	remainder of backstitch

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Kits include all fibers and fabrics necessary for stitching the design pictured on page 10.

Kit #1 (K-JCS07) includes

- 17" X 13" piece 40-ct vintage examplar linen from Lakeside Linens
- 3 skeins of Needlepoint, Inc. silk floss
- 16 skeins of Crescent Colours Belle Soie silk floss

Order #	Price
K-JCS07	$115

ORDERING INFORMATION

Shipping and Handling not included in kit price. Allow 3–4 weeks delivery within the US. Please refer to order # indicated beside the fabric selections listed above.

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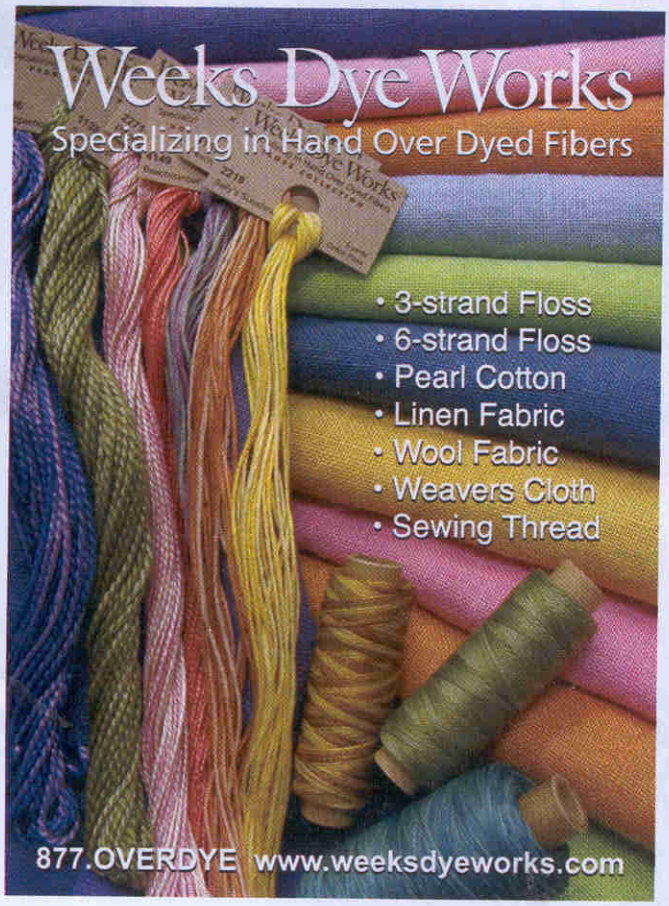

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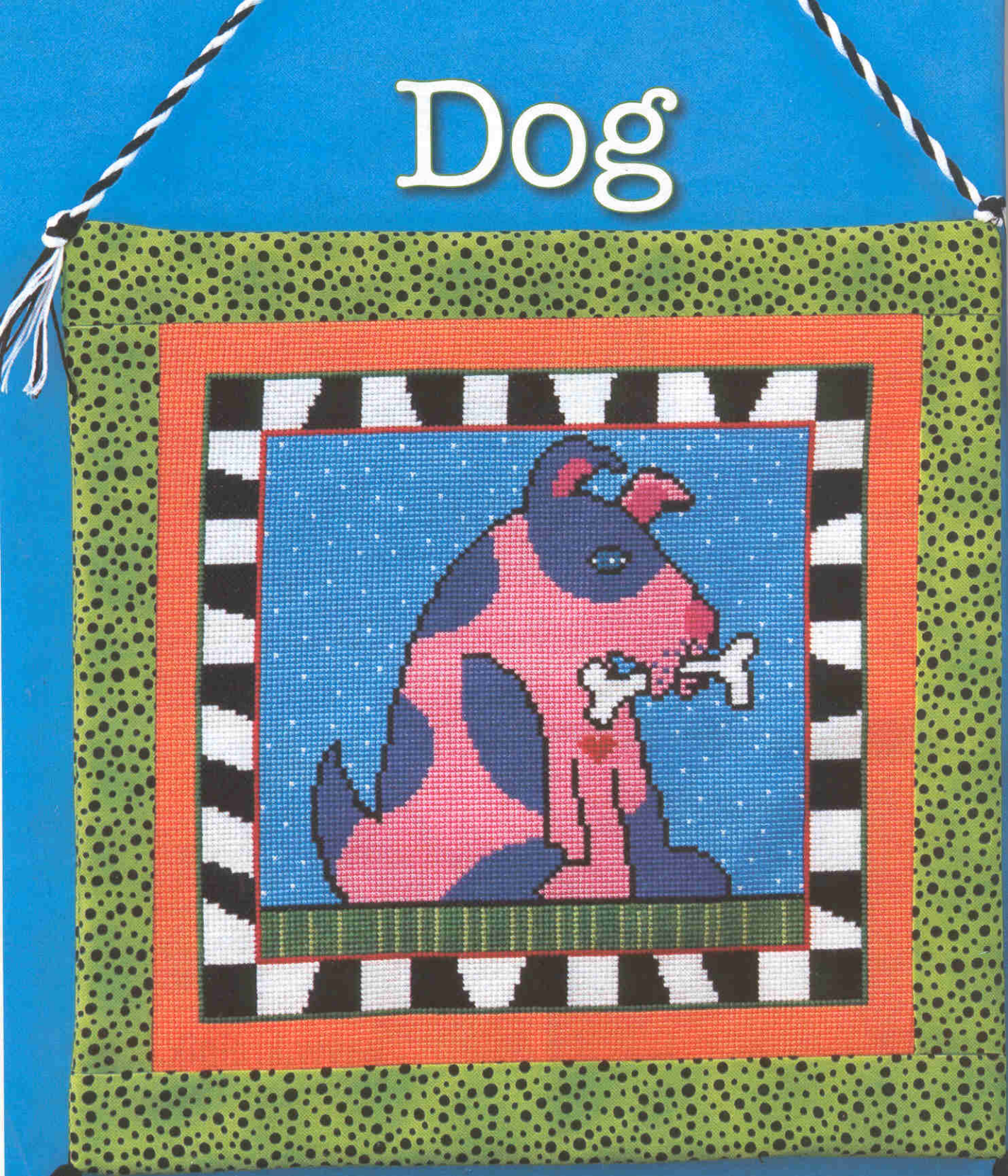
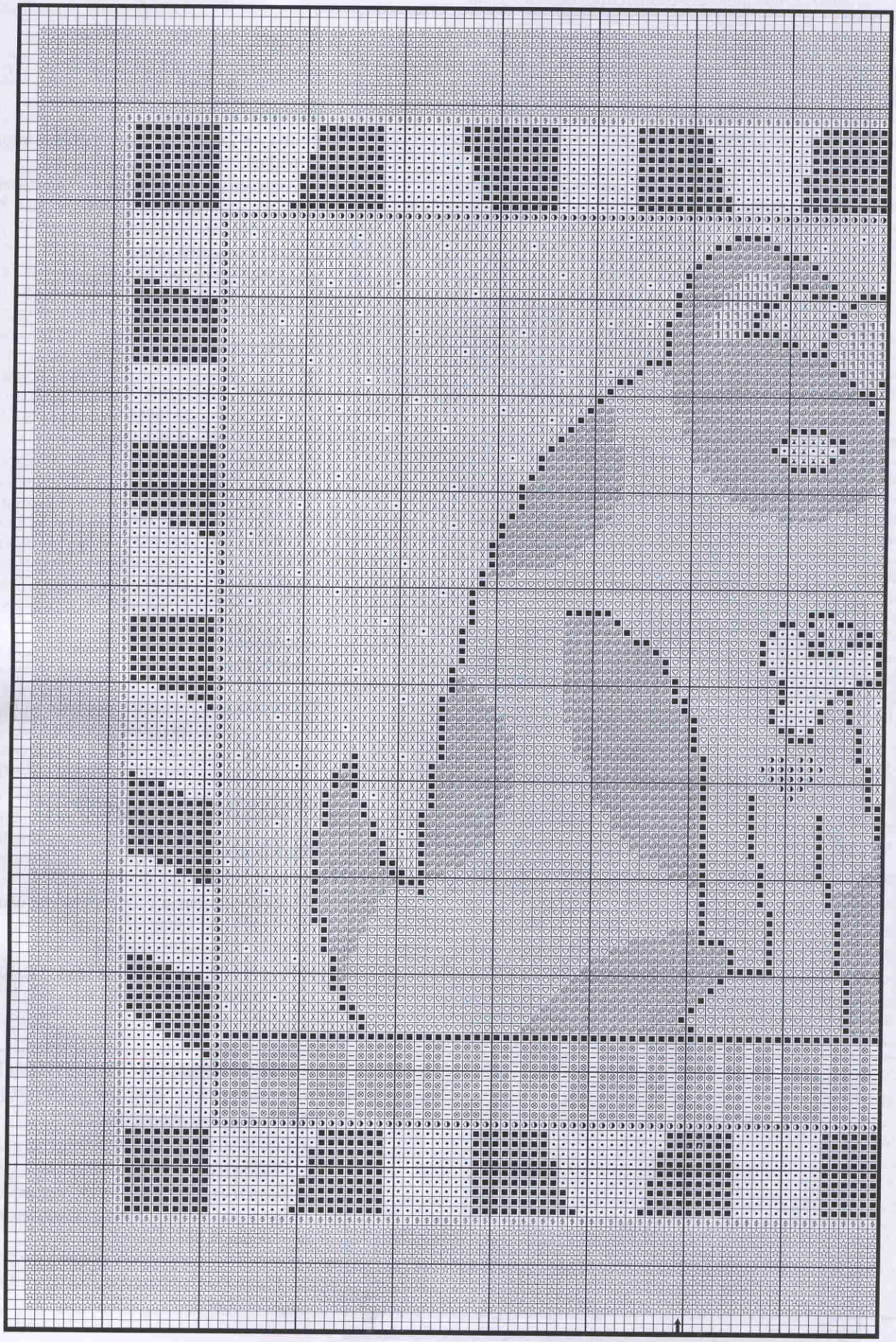
Dog



Man's best friend becomes stitcher's best friend with DeElda Wittmack's bright and cheerful canine design. If desired, substitute a bright blue fabric for the white Aida and omit the cross stitches that fill the evening sky.

Dog



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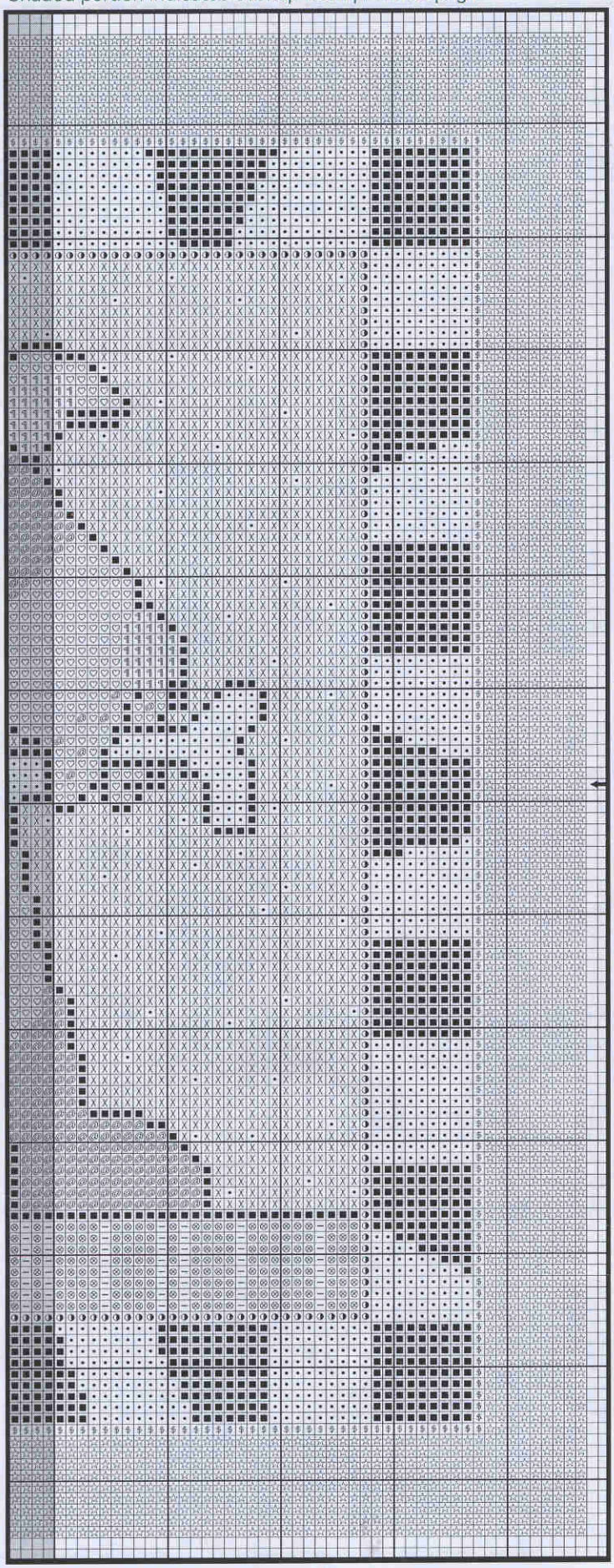


DOG

Designed by DeElda Wittmack

Materials:

- 16" x 16" piece 14-count white Aida from Wichelt Imports, Inc.*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss (Model uses DMC® floss.)**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

**Refer to color code.*

	DMC®	Anchor®	
■	310	403	black
•	blanc	2	white
☆	970	925	pumpkin, lt.
$	700	228	green, bt.
◑	817	13	coral red, vy. dk.
X	996	433	electric blue, med.
♡	603	62	cranberry
⧗	3765	170	peacock blue, vy. dk.
¶	3804	63	cyclamen pink, dk.
@	333	119	blue violet, vy. dk.
⊗	701	227	green, lt.
–	704	256	chartreuse, bt.

Stitch count: 133H x 135W
Design size: 9 1/2" x 9 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square on Aida, using three strands of floss.

Stitched by Barbara Morris

FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- 1/2 yd. novelty fabric
- 24"-length twisted cording (Model uses 310/403 and blanc/1.)*
- 12" x 12" piece thin batting
- Two small tassels (Model uses 310/403 for tassel with blanc/1 for wrapping.)*
- 1/4" dowel rod
- Pencil
- Fabric scissors
- Straight pins
- Hand-sewing needle
- Coordinating sewing thread
- Sewing machine (optional)

**Twisted cording instructions appear on page 55 and tassel-making instructions appear on page 43.*

1. From novelty fabric, cut four 2" x 12 1/2" strips of fabric.

2. Trim stitched piece to 1½" from design along all sides. Using pencil and ruler, draw a line ¼" from stitching along all sides.

3. Place one 2" x 12½" fabric strip right-side down on left edge of stitched design, aligning long edge of fabric strip with drawn line. (**Note:** Fabric will overlap stitching). Sew together, using a ¼" seam allowance. Cover stitched design with a pressing cloth and press fabric strip away from stitched design. (**Note:** Seam should abut edge of stitching.) Repeat process with a second strip and right side of design. Repeat process for remaining fabric strips and top and bottom of design. Trim away any excess fabric and square up design.

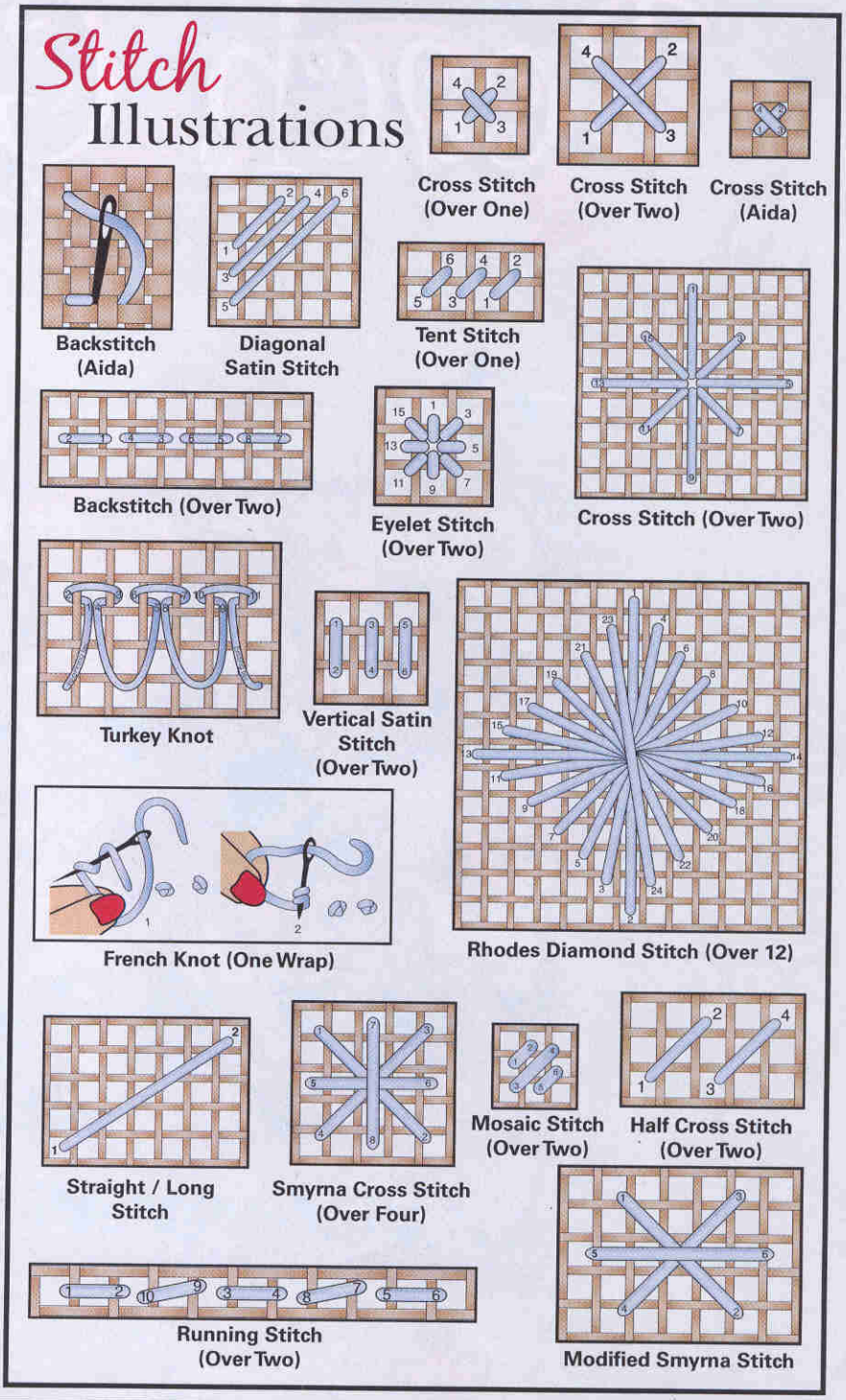
4. Using front of banner as a template, cut out one piece for backing from novelty fabric. Trim batting to same size as banner front. Baste batting to wrong side of banner front. Place banner front and backing right sides together. Sew together, using a ¼" seam allowance and leaving a 3" opening at bottom for turning. Clip corners to reduce bulk and turn right-side out.

5. Cut dowel rod ½" shorter than width of banner. Insert dowel into banner, aligning it with top inner seam. Using sewing thread and a hand-sewing needle, tack dowel in place at sides and center of dowel, sewing through back of banner only. Blind stitch opening at bottom of banner closed.

6. Knot ends of twisting cording and tack knots to top corners of banner. Attach tassels to bottom corners of banner.

Finished by Elizabeth Pugh

Stitch Illustrations



TWISTED-CORDING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- Embroidery floss (To determine amount needed, see Step 1.)
- Mini cording drill

1. To determine the amount of floss needed, multiply by three the desired length of the cording. Place all lengths of floss together and tie a knot in each end.

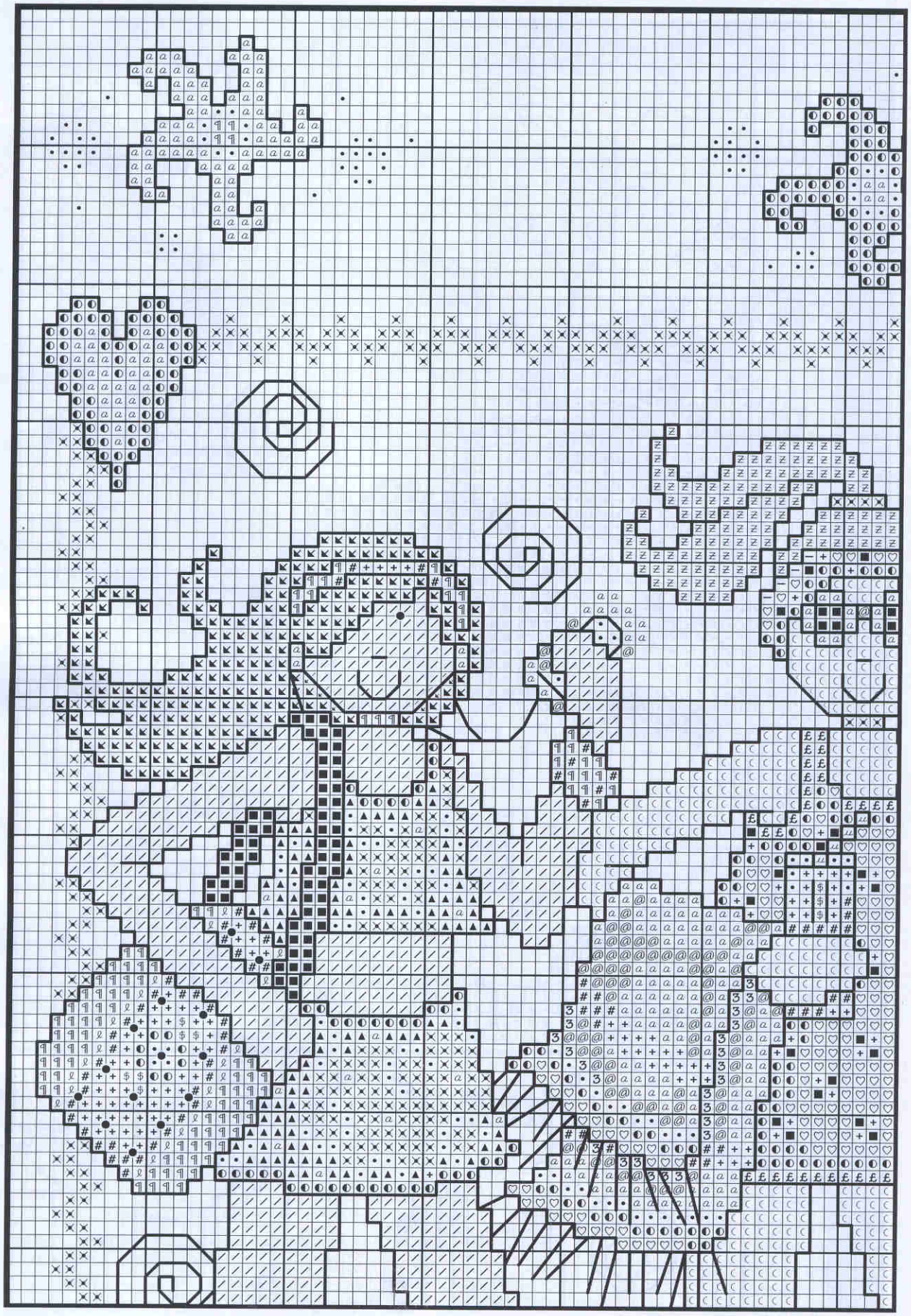
2. Slip one knotted end of floss onto hook of cording drill. Slip other knotted end over a small knob. Pull drill so that floss is taut. Operate drill in a forward direction. Floss will begin to twist. Continue twisting until floss is very tightly twisted and is about to twist up on itself.

3. Carefully remove knotted end from drill hook, being extremely careful not to let go of end and keeping twisted floss taut. Place hook of cording drill in center of length of twisted floss and place knotted end on knob, still keeping floss taut. Operate drill in a reverse direction until desired twist for cording is achieved. Remove drill. Remove ends from knob and secure with another knot.

Beach Girls

A celebration of frolicking beach fun, this tote bag makes a perfect vacation accessory. Fluorescent flosses from DMC add a summery glow to the design, while the Bright Ideas tote bag from Charles Craft makes stitching and finishing a breeze.

Beach Girls



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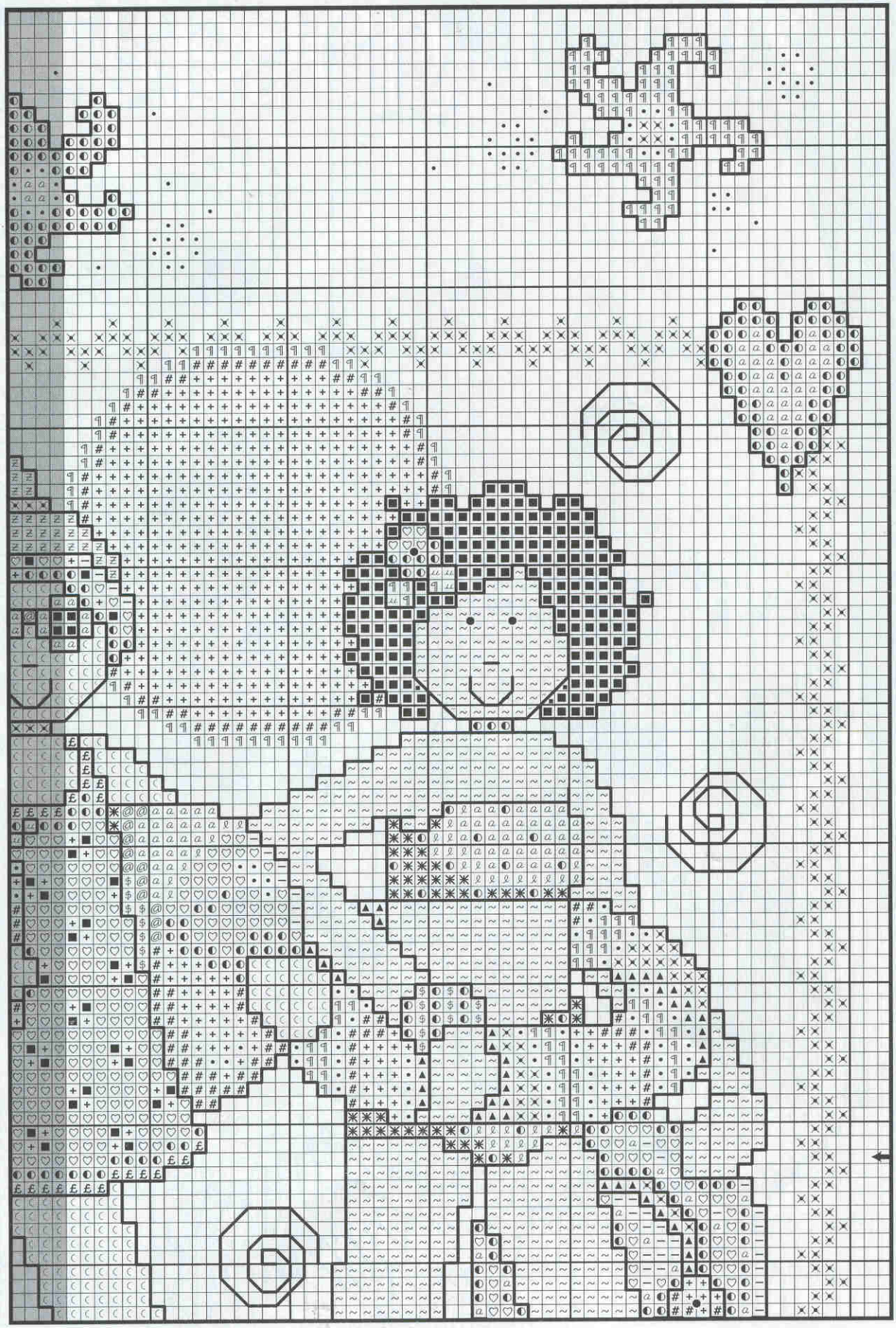

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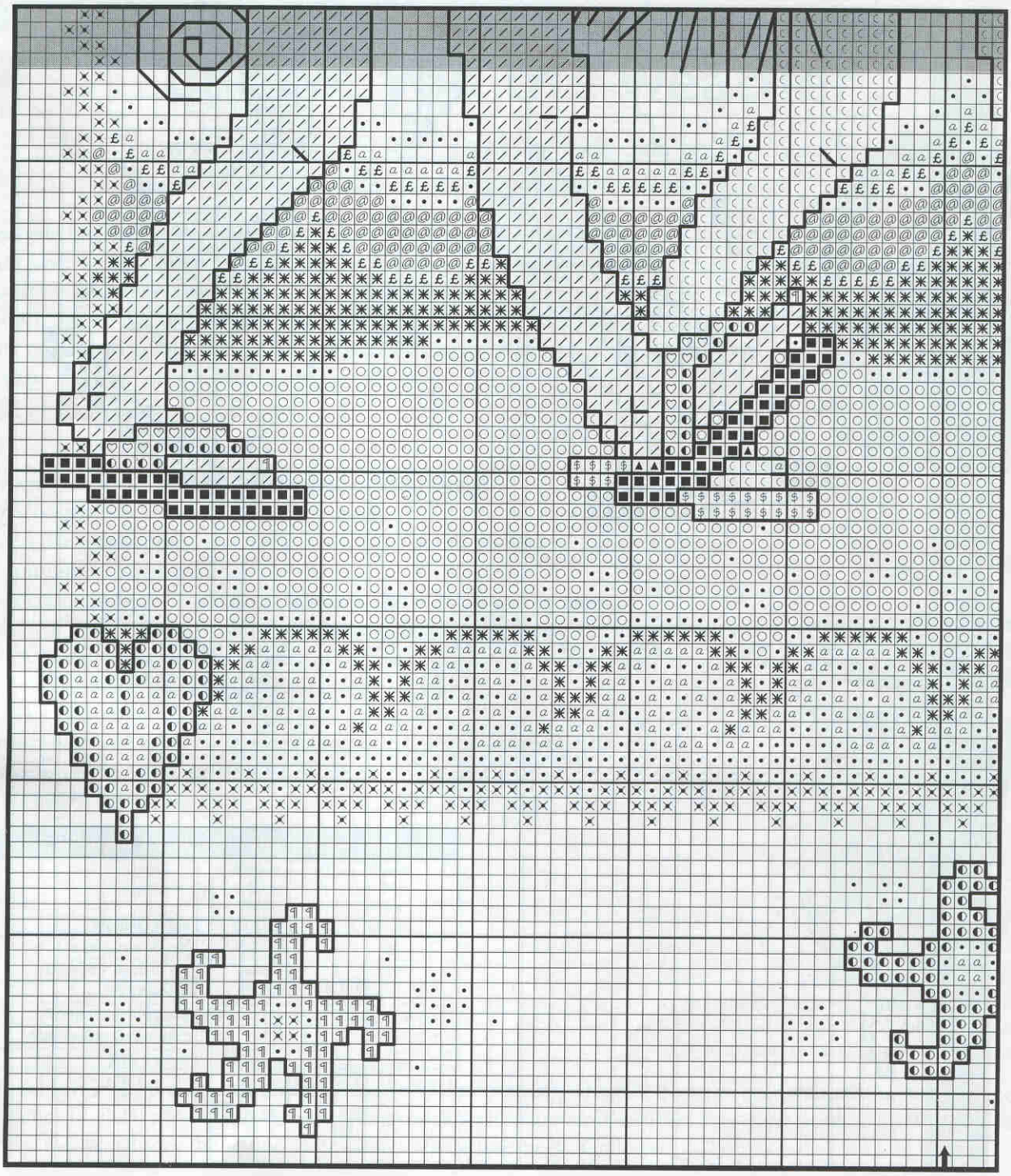


BEACH GIRLS

Designed by Joan Elliot
for Charles Craft

Materials:

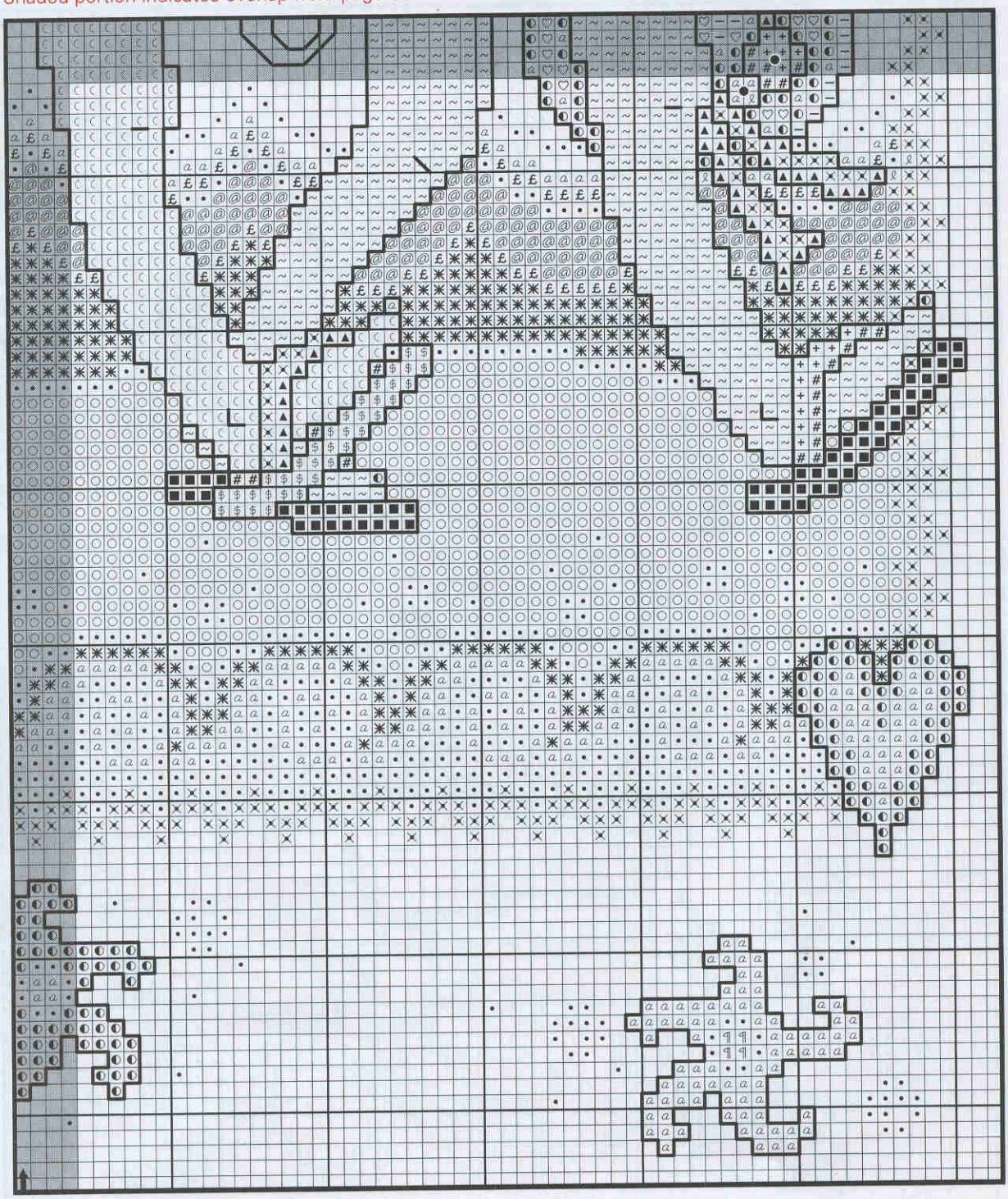
- One 14-count Aida grasshopper Bright Ideas™ Shoulder Bag (#TG-2097-4133-EA) from Charles Craft*
- One skein each DMC® or Anchor® six-strand embroidery floss**
- One package DMC® Light Effects Pack–Flourescent Collection floss (#LTE317WPK3S)**
- Size 24 tapestry needle

**See "Where to Find It" on page 62.*

***Refer to color code.*

DMC®	Anchor®	
· blanc	2	white
■ 310	403	black
~ 436	1045	tan
♡ 603	62	cranberry
– 604	55	cranberry, lt.
○ 728	1002	topaz
⁄ 738	361	tan, vy. lt.
≥ 783	307	topaz, med.
◤ 801	359	coffee brown, dk.
$ 906	256	parrot green, med.
ɯ 907	255	parrot green, lt.
£ 943	188	aquamarine, med.
☾ 951	1010	tawny, lt.

Shaded portion indicates overlap from page 58 and 59.



#	972	298	canary, dp.
+	973	297	canary, bt.
ℓ	996	433	electric blue, med.
▲	3837	111	lavender, ul. dk.
✳	3843	410	electric blue
ʒ	3844	1089	bright turquoise, dk.
@	3845	1089	bright turquoise, med.

DMC® Light Effects Fluorescents

◐	E1010	tropical pink
¶	E1020	bright orange
a	E1040	electric blue
✕	E1050	luminous lavender

Stitch count: 161H x 119W
Design size: 11½" x 8½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over one square, using one strand of floss.

Work French knot where ● appears, using one strand of floss and wrapping floss around needle once.

Backstitch instructions:

E1020	332	swirls
310	403	remainder of backstitch

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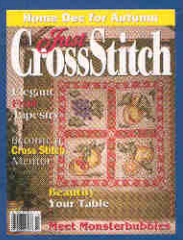

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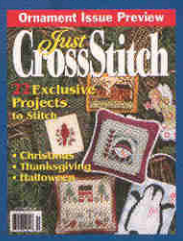

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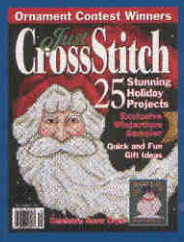

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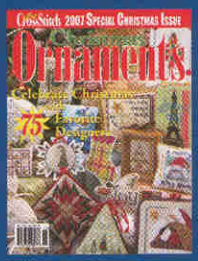

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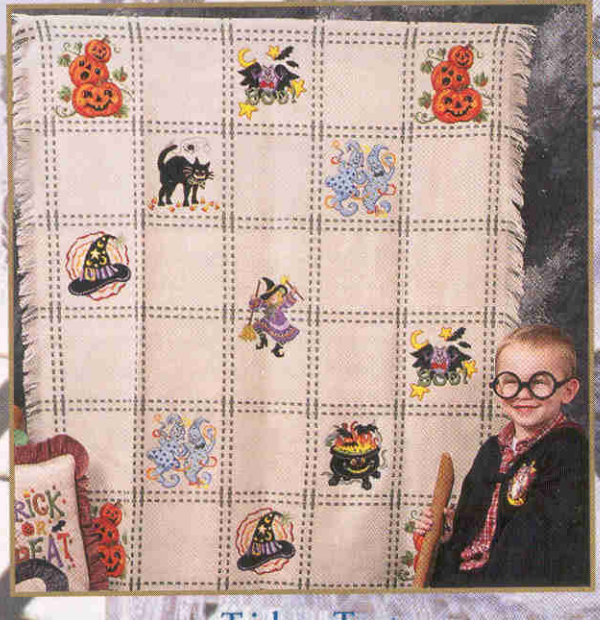

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